

# Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXIV NO. 24 June 16, 1994

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

## PRIDE AND PROTEST



### It's Freedom Day

by I. A. Kisselman

The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration takes over Market Street this Sunday, June 19. The parade will kick off promptly at 11 a.m. at Civic Center Plaza, located at the intersection of Market and Eighth streets.

The procession of floats, marching bands, employee groups, nightclub dancers, and about a hundred other contingents is expected to draw about 400,000 attendees and viewers from around the world, according to Ben Carlson of the Parade Committee. (For parade route map, marching contingent and performer lists, see page 60.)

Grand Marshals Armistead Maupin and Lani Ka'ahumanu will be in the parade as well, and will speak, along with many other outstanding community members, on the celebration stage.

Maupin is the author of the internationally acclaimed

*Tales of the City* series of novels, which wove the lives of San Franciscans of all orientations. *Tales* captured local fans from its first installments in the Chronicle in the 70s. The first book was made into a popular PBS film.

Ka'ahumanu is a well-known feminist and bisexual rights activist. A founding member of BiPOL, the nation's first bisexual political action group, Ka'ahumanu is also a poet, writer, and editor. She continues her activism as the HIV Prevention Project Coordinator at Lyon-Martin Women's Health services.

Among the other marchers are religious groups, gay and lesbian veterans, costumed carnival dancers, and the ever-popular PFLAG, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. The march will be led by the famed Women's Motorcycle Contingent, also known as Dykes on Bikes.

"San Francisco to Stonewall: Pride and Protest" is the

theme this year. And while much less controversial than last year's "Year of the Queer," it serves as a reminder that while the lesbian, gay, bi, and transgender community has a lot to be proud of, it didn't get its rights without a lot of protest, even before Stonewall.

Four years before those famous Stonewall riots, in fact, the gay community here in San Francisco was stirred up by a police raid of the annual costume ball thrown by the Council on Religion and the Homosexual on New Years Eve, 1964. Because the ball was a charity event, attended by over 600 — including a dozen invited members of the clergy — public opinion ran heavily against the police action. Public sympathy, for the first time, was firmly for the men, who had been hauled off to jail in dresses.

When the clergy who witnessed the raid held a press conference, the local headline, (Continued on page 12)

### Jordan Goes to NYC To Support Gay Rights

by Dennis Conkin

In a major statement about his support of gay rights, Mayor Frank M. Jordan has announced that he will participate in the opening ceremonies of the world-class Gay Games competitions in New York City next week.

"I'm absolutely delighted to support our athletes from Team San Francisco," Jordan said. "I want to do what I can to cheer on our team."

"And my wife, Wendy Paskin, was a world-class athlete and swimmer and she's interested in meeting the

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# Bankruptcy

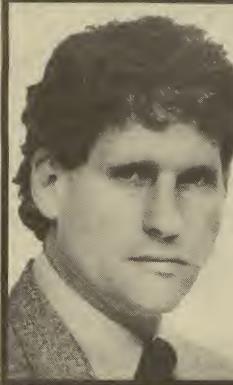
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## Community News

# Chalker Arrested for Drunken Assault on Cop

by Dennis Conkin

The publisher of a local gay newspaper was arrested and booked in San Francisco County Jail on Saturday, June 11, after allegedly assaulting and threatening a police officer during a drunken rage at a Seventh Street bar.

The state division of Alcohol and Beverage Control will investigate the incident for possible disciplinary action, which could potentially include the revocation of the bar's liquor license.

Ray Chalker, 48, the publisher of the San Francisco *Sentinel*, was arrested following an altercation at the Rawhide II bar, a tavern he owns at 280 7th Street, shortly after 2 a.m., according to a police report.

Police were called to the bar about 2 a.m., by a concerned Pacific Bell operator. The operator told police that someone had called from a pay phone at the bar, saying he needed assistance.

"On our arrival at approximately 0211 hours [2:11 a.m.] Officer Tang and I entered 280 7th Street which is the Rawhide II bar. We were met by Raymond Chalker and other unidentified persons who claimed they were em-

ployees of Mr. Chalker who owns the bar," SFPD Sergeant Frank Palma wrote in the police report.

According to Palma, Tang explained to Chalker why the police had come to the bar and asked if everything was in order.

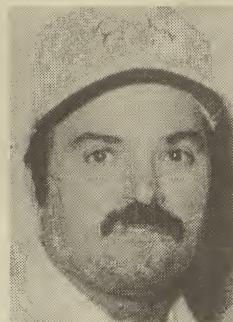
"The answers were in the affirmative. At this point Office Tang and I made an inspection of the premise and upon completion of the inspection were satisfied that no one was in need of help," Palma reported.

But, Palma alleged, the officers noticed three people were seated at the bar, after the 2 a.m. state-mandated closing time for California bars.

There was also allegedly an alcoholic beverage on the bar and officers observed a bartender removing a bar glass, according to Palma.

"It was determined that the three subjects were not employees and were ushered out by a bartender," Palma said.

When Palma told Chalker these were violations of law and asked Chalker for his Alcoholic and Beverage Control license to operate the premises, Chalker allegedly became belligerent and abusive and



*Sentinel* publisher Ray Chalker. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

battered the veteran officer.

"It was this time that Chalker with his right index finger poked me in the chest four to five times and ordered me off his property," Palma charged.

"Chalker staggered around the room yelling that he owned the *Sentinel* newspaper and that he was going to sue me and have my job. Then Chalker advised me to place all my personal property in some other name because he is coming after me," Palma went on to allege in the police report.

Palma said Chalker was so

(Continued on page 31)

## Drive-by Shooting in the Castro

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco police are investigating a Tuesday, June 14 anti-gay drive-by shooting in front of the Castro Theatre that left one person injured from the blast of a bb pellet firearm.

The incident took place at 8:10 p.m., according to David Becklund, manager of the Castro Street Rolling Pin Donuts.

Becklund said he was about to pass out flyers advertising the store's goodies to Lesbian and Gay Film Festi-

val ticket holders exiting the Castro Theatre alcove when he heard a loud pop."

"Something ricocheted inside the alcove," Becklund told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I stood perfectly still as everyone else did. The ricochet stopped and everyone started to ask if anyone was hurt.

"One person was hit in the leg. He was bleeding."

Officers were superb

Becklund said the San Francisco Patrol special officers responding to the incident "were superb," and the

injured individual was given assistance inside the Castro Theatre after the attack.

The occupants of the car were yelling anti-gay epithets such as "Fuck you faggot" to Becklund, and demanded to know why he wanted their license number.

Becklund memorized the number and provided it to police who are investigating the crime.

The identity or condition of the injured person, who was not hospitalized, were not available at B.A.R. press time. ▼

## Santa Cruz Assemblyman Votes Against Domestic Partners Bill

by Dennis Conkin

Santa Cruz activists have criticized Republican Assemblymember Bruce McPherson's May 31 vote against AB 2810, a state Domestic partners bill.

The state measure defines "domestic partner" and provides for registration with the Secretary of State.

The legislation also codifies visitation rights at health facilities, allows for conservatorships and the transfer of property rights to domestic partners on statutory wills.

McPherson was also criticized by the *Santa Cruz Sentinel* last week for not even bothering to talk to constituents about the legislation before he voted against it.

According to the *Sentinel*, McPherson portrayed himself as a moderate who was wil-

ing to "seek ideas from all quarters when he ran for office last year."

"But, he sided with anti-gay forces in casting this disappointing vote, ignoring the significant numbers of lesbians and gays who live in the 27th District," the *Sentinel* chided in an editorial.

The Domestic partners legislation, written by Assemblyman Richard Katz of Panoram City, was supported by gay, seniors and other groups, but only narrowly passed the Assembly, where it was denounced by right wing Republicans.

McPherson criticized the lesbian and gay Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee for castigating him for his no vote on the bill.

McPherson called the political lobby a "special interest group," said its criticism was

"unfortunate," and said the group has chosen the "politics of confrontation."

McPherson also said that the Katz measure wasn't about gay, senior or human rights. He called the measure redundant and said property, visitation and survivorship rights and other protections in the bill were already obtainable.

An aide to McPherson told the *Bay Area Reporter* that McPherson was not anti-gay and had supported previously AB 101, a gay job rights measure vetoed in 1991 by Gov. Pete Wilson.

The aide said McPherson is not opposed to domestic partners legislation. The measure heads for a June 21 hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. ▼

## Community News



Playing with fire: The Lesbian Avengers perform at the D.C. Dyke March with the White House as a backdrop.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

## When the Dykes Go Marching Out

by Erin Blackwell

Lesbians of all persuasions are invited to take the streets in a public celebration of our very existence at the second annual Dyke March, Saturday, June 18th. The organizing coalition, comprised of individual members of WAC, ACT UP, Lavender Leaf and the Lesbian Avengers, welcomes all women to join them at 18th and Castro Streets at 7 p.m. The subsequent route remains a not-too-closely guarded secret in order to foil those boys and girls in blue.

Following the march, at around 9 p.m., people of all sexes are invited to partake of the Dyke March Rally. Laurie Irving, an African-American gay rights activist, will MC. Speakers include Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, Native American poet Chrystos, plus

a farewell performance by the Safer Sex Sluts. Around 10:30 p.m. the non-verbal fun will begin with DJs Zanne from Junk, hip-hop/house mixtress Sandra, and salsa chef Jagqueen.

Judith Cohen said last year 10,000 women showed up for the march. "We expected maybe two to three thousand women, tops, and were overwhelmed that so many women came. It was such a show of visibility and pride. We intend to continue producing these marches as long as lesbian visibility is an issue, which means, for some time to come."

Men are welcome to support of their lesbian sisters by cheering us on from the sidelines. Cohen continued, "This march is about celebration, not separation, about getting our faces and bodies out

there, about having fun. There's also a big emphasis this year on accessibility for women with disabilities. We're providing transportation and free parking, as well as lots of space at the front of the march."

As for the raison d'être of the exercise, Cohen quoted from the \$10 t-shirt: "Why are we doing this? For freedom, for power, for sisterhood, for love, for dignity, for human rights, for our children, for joy, for liberation, for ourselves, for control of our lives, for equality, for justice, for all women, forever."

But the bottom-line? "Women are so beautiful," sighed Cohen. So true, so true, so true.

For further information, please call the hotline 789-8012. ▼

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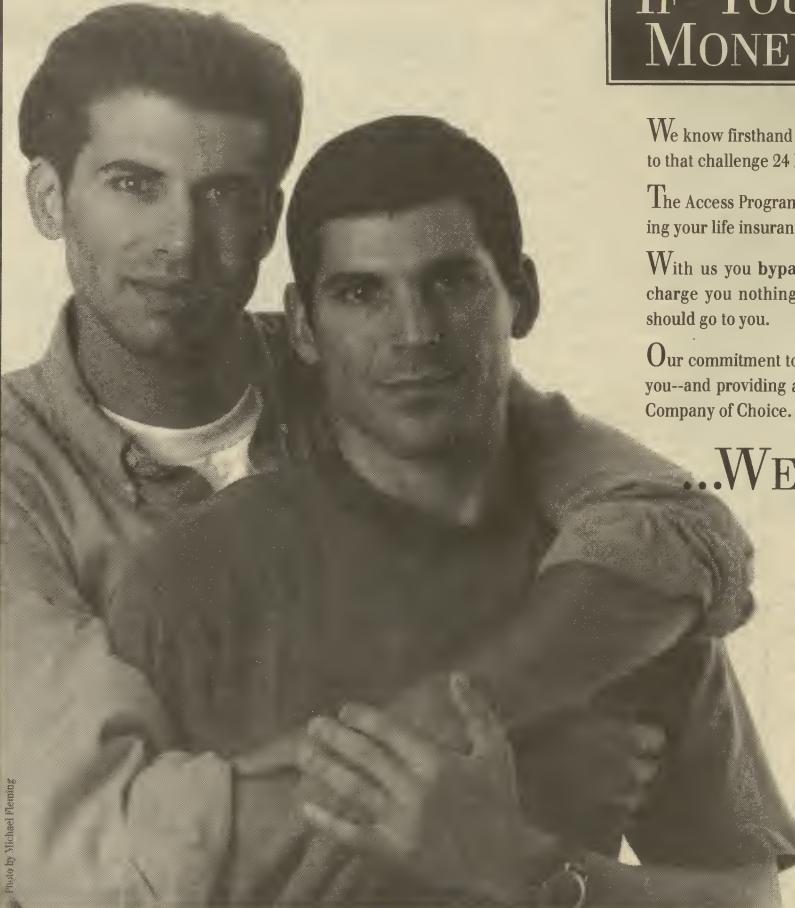


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## Community News

### Bud Donates to Godfather Service Fund

by Dennis Conkin

The AIDS Emergency Fund and The Godfather Service Fund have each received donations of \$7,500 from the makers and wholesalers of Bud Light Beer to support Gay Pride Month and the efforts of the two non-profit groups to care for people with AIDS.

Both agencies will also offer commemorative acrylic Bud Light rainbow bottle lapel pins for \$1.00 donations as fundraisers for their service programs.

The AEF provides financial assistance to people living with AIDS or disabling HIV disease through third party grants for housing, medical or other emergency needs. Last year, AEF raised \$1.2 million and assisted an estimated 2,700 local residents.

"We are extremely proud to be part of the Bud Light promotion for Gay Pride Month," said Stephen McNeil, an AEF board member. "The funds we raise represent one of our larger fund-raising efforts for the year."

The Godfather Service Fund provides bathrobes, slippers, toiletries and teddy bears to people with HIV/AIDS who are patients in San Francisco hospitals and hospices.

"We provide the patients with things that will make them more comfortable. We try to let them know that people in the community care about them," said Chris Puccinelli, GSF coordinator.

Anheuser-Busch, makers of Budweiser and Bud Light beers, in conjunction with Matagrano, Inc., its local wholesaler, will also donate

50 cents per case of Bud Light sold during the promotion to the two agencies. The donation per case sold is expected to raise several thousand additional dollars for the groups.

"We're very proud to be supporting Gay Pride Month in a way that will directly help local organizations," said Tom Hass, vice president of sales for Matagrano, Inc. "Bud Light will be able to show their support by wearing the Bud Light rainbow bottle pins and signing posters available in local bars and restaurants."

More than 70 local restaurants, bars and taverns will be participating in the promotion. Table tents, posters and specially designed neon signs will decorate the venues during June, according to Hass. ▀

## Virgin Fundies?

by Cliff Anchor

Virgin Atlantic Airlines marketing icons the Brown sisters were on television again this Sunday, only it wasn't an ad that flew. Their endorsement on fundamentalist preacher Dwight Thompson's telecast soared to the ground like a lead blimp.

The sisters appeared on camera in a segment of the Thompson show and were interviewed about a "Christian gathering" taking place in Southern California. Contacted by the B.A.R., Virgin Atlantic's marketing representative said she was "horrified" and thought that "probably the Brown sisters were not aware the interview was even used within Thompson's program."

KFCB-TV Channel 42 in Concord was founded by Ronn and Connie Haus, a former Assembly of God preacher and his wife. According to the station's public file, the station's tax-free status is unclear. When KFCB's representative in charge of the public file was asked if the station was commercial or not-for-profit, she stated she didn't know. Even FCC filings have both checkboxes marked off. Curiously, when the station was first founded, and could not locate an antenna site, George Dukmejian, then the state's GOP attorney general, intervened on KFCB's behalf, filing a condemnation suit in the name of the State of California against the property owner and Contra Costa County. Dukmejian apparently still keeps close contact with the station. A framed congratulatory letter is on the wall in KFCB's lobby.

The organizational structure of KFCB appears very nebulous. The station's public files contain demand records and citations for repeated failure to file reports. The political file section shows paid political announcements aired for extremist GOP candidates. The brother of Randall Terry (of Operation Rescue) appears in the file as an officer or benefactor of KFCB, as do a list of used car dealers and doctors in Southern California who were described as investors.

Recently KFCB-TV was sued for racial discrimination by the NAACP, which won its case against the station. The Federal Communications Commission has also fined KFCB-TV ten thousand dol-



Santa or Satan? The Brown sisters' appearance on a Dwight Thompson show "horrified" a Virgin Atlantic representative.

(Photo: Randy Dean)

lars for violations. The station's contracts with Jim and Tammy Bakker are also part of the public file.

KFCB-TV has a rich history of airing homophobic programming, not the least of which is Dwight Thompson's show. Recently, Thompson yelled hysterically into the microphone, tears flooding down his face, babbling and rolling on the floor, beating it with his fists and speaking gibberish (tongues).

enumerated a multiple point "agenda" for a takeover of the United States by his fanatic legions.

In another segment, the Brown sisters said that what Thompson was promoting was "wonderful!"

Congressional moves are underway to reinstate the fairness doctrine, an FCC rule dismantled under the Reagan administration, which calls for the allotment of equal time to minority groups that have been maligned or attacked in broadcasts.

### Alaska's ill wind

Travelers aboard Alaska Airlines are complaining about religious tracts that are handed out with dinner meals. A number of passengers have filed complaints against Alaska Air for proselytizing religion to a captive audience. One woman attorney passenger found the religious tracts so objectionable that she sued.

Airline officials claim the placement of the religious tracts on meal trays is meant to "inspire" people. "To do what?" snapped one passenger. "Change my religion, or copy their religion?"

Jean Crane, who was visiting a shopping mall in Santa Rosa, California, made a trip to Seattle via Alaska Air recently. "As a confirmed member of the Jewish faith," she represented the airline "meddling in [her] family's strongly held beliefs and heritage. If we want to get religion, we will go to our synagogue of our choice. The airlines are complaining they don't have enough business. Small wonder when they inject themselves and their personal religious dogma onto passengers. We won't travel Alaska Air again." ▀

## News Briefs

by Dennis Conkin

### Forget Stonewall, Make a Call

In one of the most gratuitous revisions of lesbian and gay history ever observed, The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has renamed Stonewall Day 1994 as National Health Care Reform Call-In Day.

And, NGLTF leaders say they want people to contact their legislators on the June 25 anniversary of the Stonewall Riots — about health care issues.

"Our community desperately needs health care reform for the same reasons as most Americans. But we also face specific obstacles in the current system, such as high levels of individuals, lack of coverage for our families and anti gay prejudice," said Health Policy director Marj Plumb.

The Policy Institute is calling for universal coverage for all people, comprehensive benefits covering Western and alternative therapies, no restrictions for pre-existing condition such as AIDS or cancer, non-discrimination language in health care coverage bills and permanent coverage that cannot be taken away.

Call In Day kits are available through the NGLTF National Health Care Reform Hotline at 202 332-6483.

### Ring Ma Bell

ATT has launched a slick direct mail advertising campaign that targets lesbian and gay consumers. The mailer — inside a mock lavender telephone bill emblazoned with a rainbow telephone cord, features four couples — two straight and one lesbian and one gay, extolling the virtues of ATT long distance services. The mailer also features members of a profile of ATT's gay and lesbian organization LEAGUE, saying what a great place it is for gay workers. Although the employees said the corporation has a "longstanding non discrimination guideline", no information about ATT domestic partners benefits or bereavement, health care, pension or child care leave policies were available at press time. For more information about ATT Services call 800 862-9995.

### Shopaholics Get One Outlet

Manhattan's APP Pharmacy has been named Gay Games Official Merchandise Headquarters for the Games and Cultural Festival. The front section of the community pharmacy is now a gay games boutique and the only place in NYC which has a complete line of Gay Games merchandise.

Details of the financial contract between the Gay Games and APP for the official sanction were not available at press time but the merchandise includes silk-screened and embroidered t-shirts, sweat shirts, tank tops, warm up suits, hats, key chains, watches and an extensive collection of cloisonne pin labels in over 100 designs.

APP also designed seven bags and totes in a durable black nylon especially for the Games.

APP makes most of its money by selling prescription drugs such as AZT to people with AIDS and HIV. It is the leading nation's mail order prescription for people with HIV. For more information call 212/691-9050.

### Arbor Lawyer Needed

The AIDS Memorial Grove, the first significant living memorial dedicated to those lost to AIDS and in support of those living with HIV is seeking a pro-bono attorney. The group needs the lawyer to help draft a maintenance endowment agreement with the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department to protect the site at De Laveaga Dell in Golden Gate Park. Officially launched in 1991, the Grove is expected to be complete in 1995. If you are interested in providing pro bono legal assistance contact Meriel Lindley at 693-9505.

### News Biz Gets Domestic

A new eight-page guide to domestic partner benefits in the media industry gathers some of the best information to date on the cost of extending benefits. The guide examines the experience of eight media companies and six Fortune 500 companies that provide domestic partners benefits to their employees.

Produced by the National Association of Lesbian and Gay Journalists, the guide was released at a newspaper convention the same week the *New York Times* finalized a Newspaper Guild contract that included benefits for same sex domestic partners of union workers. The Guide is available for \$2. For more information contact NLGJA at 415 905 4690.

### Mo Money, Mo Money

More than \$1.4 million in grants was awarded to lesbian and gay rights organizations this month by the Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation, with most of the money going to four lesbian and gay rights group. A fifth grant will be used by a leading law school to set up a fellowship in gay rights litigation.

The grants are the largest amount ever committed by an independent foundation to gay and lesbian issues.

Established in 1956, the Mertz-Gilmore Foundation has awarded grants to lesbian and gay groups working on national advocacy and policy issues since 1987. Astrea National Lesbian Action Foundation received a \$400,000 grant to continue its resource development and outreach work to lesbians. The Hetrick Martin Institute received \$300,000 to institutionalize the National Youth Advocacy Coalition which raises awareness about the existences and needs of lesbian and gay youth. San Francisco's National Center for Lesbian Rights received \$450,000 to strengthen its administrative and fundraising capacities. NGLTF's Policy Institute received \$175,000 to help it move to new headquarters. The New York University Law School Hays Fellowship will use a \$100,000 grant to establish a fellowship focusing on gay and lesbian civil rights. The fellowship will be named in honor of gay legal activist Tom Stoddard. ▼

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## Editorial

### The Rights of Summer

The summer solstice is almost here, and June is once again, as Oscar Hammerstein put it, bustin' out all over. It isn't only the month's more sumptuous floral and faunal aspects that's in evidence, but the entrancing and inspiring spirit of June.

Here at the cusp of a perfumed and seemingly permanent summertime, when the earth delivers on the promises it made all winter and spring long, it is a time of goodwill, nesting, hope, and planning. Maybe that's why our straight friends have long preferred this time for getting married, a tradition that's been adopted by more and more of our lesbian and gay friends, as well. That phenomenon has even been observed at *The New Yorker*, which put a male wedding couple on its cover a week ago.



Maybe the first fights for gay rights weren't in June — and they weren't — but the most famous was. Maybe it was the expansive warmth and optimism of the month that made it impossible for some of our spiritual forbearers 25 Junes ago to postpone the blossoming of their equality and the full flower of their rightful status as first-class citizens. Maybe that is why those cross-dressing, homosexual, but otherwise law-abiding, Stonewall patrons pollinated the modern gay rights movement by not going gently into the paddy wagons that waited outside that Greenwich Village dive. Instead, those brave gay men and lesbian women exploded in rage, and like milkweed pods cracking open across a freshly plowed field, they germinated the equal rights movement that continues to grow to this day.

Now lesbians and gay men, and transgenders, bisexuals, their parents, kids, friends, and other family members, carry on the yearly tradition of germinating and pollinating in ever-wider circles; our June celebratory parades, as natural an annual occurrence as salmon spawning, have spread to the farthest corners of America and beyond, to countries around the globe. This year they've been spread around chronologically as well, so it's been theoretically possible to spend the entire month just travelling the world, participating in the revelry.

The great majority of us will have to be content to take part in our homegrown celebration here in San Francisco, and the huge do in New York, if possible. We hope to see giant turnouts at both events, and everywhere else the citizenry assembles to honor the concept of equal rights for all. Every participant in every march helps to make our garden grow: like an army of Johnny Appleseeds, marchers spread valuable seeds. Not the seeds of homosexuality, as the televangelists would have their flocks believe, but seeds of humanity. Civility. Equality. Tolerance. Understanding. The day those seeds have taken root across America is not just a better day for lesbians and gays, but for everyone. And best of all, unlike a lot of other things that we do because they are good for us and terribly terribly important, it's also incredibly fun.

A final summer solstice/gardening thought. There was a time when gay men were routinely and derisively called "pan-sies." Now that some members of the community have proudly reclaimed the word "queer," maybe we should also start being a little prouder of the flower reference: there are worse comparisons. Think about it: besides being highly decorative — well, face it, we are — we are also hardy. We have managed to flower, no matter how dark the closets we have been forced into, no matter how arid the climates to which we have come out, and we will continue to do so. No attempt to cut back our natural growth can succeed; we will not be pruned.

We are a garden, a collection of flowers of every hue, every variety, and every size. And every day, whether the fundies and backward-facing politicos like it or not, we are more of a victory garden. ▼

# Proclamation

City and County of San Francisco

Whereas the City and County of San Francisco is proud to recognize and honor the achievements of the gay and lesbian community; and



Whereas 1994 marks the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, which are widely recognized as the birth of the modern-day gay rights movement; and



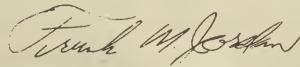
Whereas the month of June has come to be recognized by the lesbian and gay community as a time for reflecting on past struggles and preparing for future challenges; and

Whereas events and festivities are occurring, including the International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, Stonewall 25, The Gay Games, and Countless local Pride Festivities; now

Therefore Be It Resolved That I, Frank M. Jordan, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, in honor and appreciation of the Community's achievements do hereby proclaim June, 1994 as...

#### Gay Pride Month in San Francisco

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City and County of San Francisco to be affixed.



Frank M. Jordan  
Mayor

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POLITICAL EDITOR  
Wayne Friday

## Letters

### More on "More Tales of The City"

The following letter was sent to Ervin Dugan, President, PBS, 1320 Braddock Pl., Alexandria, VA 22314:

I wish to protest in the strongest terms the decision by PBS to withdraw financing from Armistead Maupin's "More Tales of the City."

The production of "Tales of the City" was one of the most enjoyable programs I have seen on PBS in recent years, and I have been eagerly awaiting the next installment.

As a gay man, I appreciated this mini-series because it was one of the few programs on television to present gays in a favorable, non-judgmental and non-stereotypical light.

Since the original production met with widespread critical approval and drew strong ratings, I can only surmise that homophobia and pressure from the religious right are at the heart of your decision.

I implore you to reconsider this matter.

Frank Davis  
San Francisco

### The Perils of Blatant Dogma

The following letter was sent to the Science Editor, San Francisco Chronicle, San Francisco:

As if your science department doesn't know the difference between a virus and the strep bacteria.

Virus mentality is overfunded at the Centers for Disease Control. Duesberg is right about HIV. I know, because my health is improving with a 10-year AIDS diagnosis.

Did you also know: that not every case of the "mysterious" Navajo disease has the hanta virus? Be careful what you print — your role in this AIDS debacle is being documented.

It started out as a humble mistake, but was then compounded by the fear of admitting a mistake. Tell Lisa Krieger, this still is no proof; are you all getting worried?

Proof that HIV isn't the cause of AIDS: (also mysterious) Gulf War syndrome that also involves family members that didn't go to Saudi Arabia; the escalation of E. Coli illness from only the Pacific Northwest to "top 'o the news" all 50 states in 1 1/2 years.

And to name one more of many, the case of this "mysterious" virulent strep that is now in many nations due to definition of the syndrome. The gay men were simply the tip of the "low immunity" iceberg. A 10-year grace period (that has ended) ahead of the general population.

Did you ever find time to actually read the 100-page manuscript on chronic candidiasis (Remington/M.D.) that was sent to Perlman over two years ago? I have a personal acknowledgment of receipt.

And stop trying to alienate the whole gay community from Peter's correct hypothesis. Duesberg does not claim "homosexuality" to be one of the causes of AIDS. This was your unprofessional interpretation, showing your own personal homophobia Mr. Perlman.

And why is there no coverage of Neville Hodgkinson's (*London Times*) views as well as the already filed class action British suit against Wellcome?

W.B. Coyle  
Fairfax, CA

### On Being Intellectually Dishonest

The following letter was sent to Randy Pittman, Editor/Publisher, Video Librarian, PO Box 2725, Bremerton, WA 98310:

Your review of the religious fundamentalists' *Gay Rights, Special Rights* is obtuse in the very least. Your personal understanding of prejudice and discrimination against any group of people is intellectually dishonest. You enjoy espousing your own agenda by castigating not just the religious fundamentalists but also detracting from the U.S. Constitution's Fifth and Fourteenth Amendment guarantees of equal protection under the law for all people.

Gays and lesbians, historically and currently, are a recognizable target for discrimination. Your rebuttal to a reader who challenged your review by making a cogent comparison of the fundies' *Gay Rights, Special Rights* to Hitler's propaganda ministry was addressed by you in a fallacious analogy. You stated that this comparison was "more than a little insulting to the 6 million Jews who died (if 6 million gays have likewise suffered in America, I'm unfamiliar with it.)"

Your remark is nothing more than poorly structured sophist rhetoric that failed miserably to detract attention from your reader's valid analogy. Hitler targeted BOTH Jews and homosexuals by inferring and massacring them in Nazi concentration camps. In fact, the pink triangle which the gay and lesbian community now employs to symbolize their persecution was developed by the Nazis to further stigmatize their homosexual prisoners.

By asking if 6 million gays have suffered that same fate in America, you feebly attempted to sidestep the issue of historical persecution of gays and lesbians and how this painful history is important in dealing with the current trends of the religious right in America.

Gays and lesbians are a recognizable minority because they are systematically singled out by others for discrimination and persecution. Equal protection under the law is a guarantee in America; unfortunately, gays and lesbians are consistently denied those protections in their work, in their social lives and in their relationships with their chosen spouses.

Instead of feeling fearful of the gay movement, you and others like you might better spend your time researching the religious right who have proclaimed their agenda. Through the election process, they seek to indoctrinate their belief system into our government to establish state-sanctioned religion and to curtail our freedoms of association, expression and religion.

George Crawford  
San Francisco

### Tom Snyder — Homophobe!

Letter writer Bob Basker incorrectly asserts "Whether Tom Snyder is still homophobic, he certainly wouldn't demonstrate it publicly in today's more progressive atmosphere."

In fact, Tom Snyder volunteered in his cable show diatribe that the gay Colorado boycott was "ill advised" and that it should be called off. This was when the boycott started; certainly before the court stay. Further, Snyder blathered that he doesn't like gay "in your face" tactics.

In Orlando where I live and where a huge gay community is active and vocal, Snyder's show appears on an obscure cable position and is frequently preempted by paid programming.

On another subject close to us Floridians, may I respectfully remind your readers that the Florida orange juice boycott is on and successful. You may know that the boycott results from the Florida Citrus Commission having paid \$1 million to Rush Limbaugh to push orange juice.

A month or so ago, the commission acknowledged that sales are down. The commission did not attribute the slippage to the boycott, however; the straight, albeit very gay-friendly, Orlando media did.

And to your readers who vigilantly support the orange juice boycott goes my deepest thanks and gratitude.

Larry Bucking  
Orlando, Florida

### Keep Those Blue Lights Shining

For the 6th year now, the Bluelights Campaign has asked local merchants to display our window cards in their homes and places of business as a way of reaching the many throngs of visitors that descend upon San Francisco in the summertime just prior to the gay pride festivities. Again this year, we ask those interested in joining in with the Bluelights Campaign in showing your love and support for those dealing with AIDS/HIV and the continued search for a cure by shining a blue light from your windows at night as a beacon of love, hope and understanding.

Someday, we will defeat this disease and live in a world without AIDS. Until then, we must all do our small parts in continuing the struggle for ourselves as well as for those we have already lost to the struggle. We do not struggle in vain.

Thank you for taking part in helping spread the word. The Bluelights Campaign is a community-based AIDS awareness program that continues to grow larger each year.

David S. Willers, Founder  
Bluelights Campaign, San Francisco

### Still Willing to Support PAWS

I am saddened to know of the present difficulties that PAWS is experiencing. I am sensitive to the pain of both those individuals who have left the organization and to those who remain.

The purpose of this letter isn't to take "sides" or to judge; instead, it is to express my support for the purpose and philosophy of PAWS, i.e., to promote and honor that special relationship that PWAs have with their dear companion animals.

I know, both personally and professionally, about the profound importance and significance of companion animals for persons with this illness. I have been privileged to work with PAWS for many years, and I have seen the important work and contributions it has made to the lives of many people.

During my association with PAWS, I have met and known very caring, concerned and sensitive individuals who have given tremendously of themselves to support PAWS.

While I am deeply sensitive to, and aware of, individuals' pain, perspectives, experiences and concerns, I want to lend my support to PAWS as an important organization not only within the Bay Area, but as its influence extends nationally and internationally.

Other similar developing and growing organizations have looked to PAWS for leadership. I trust that the current difficulties will be resolved and that PAWS and all it has stood for will continue to serve individuals, organizations and communities.

Betty J. Carmack  
San Francisco

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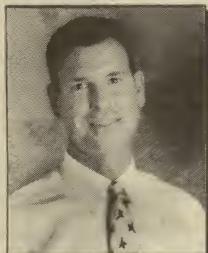
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## Letters

### Endangered Species: ATMs

As part of his so-called homeless plan, Mayor Frank Jordan has proposed a no loitering zone around ATMs. The supervisors have narrowly rejected the proposal (in a 5 to 5 vote) and now the recently passed Measure J proposed that people without "legitimate bank business" be barred within 30 feet of ATMs.

The evidence that robbery isn't what's at issue here is more than anecdotal. According to police, there were exactly seven robberies at ATMs last year and 55 attempts, while there were more than 9,000 other kinds of robberies in the city. Physical violence isn't really the issue either. According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, people are rarely injured at ATM holdups.

So what crime is being addressed? Even assuming the ATM law is unenforceable, robbery rates will not be significantly reduced. What does it have to do with homelessness? Police robbery inspector Tom Sullivan said in the *Chronicle* that few of the ATM hold-up suspects were described as homeless or street people. And what makes ATMs so different from parks, bus stops or movie lines that we need special laws about them?

What makes ATMs different is guilt. Money and guilt. When you're at an ATM, getting out \$80 or \$100, that's when it's hardest to justify — to yourself — not giving a homeless person a quarter. What are you going to spend that cash on? A new pair of \$75 shoes? A few \$7.50 movies, plus popcorn? Some of it goes for groceries. Most of us have some form of disposable income. We can afford to give someone a quarter or even a dollar once in a while. And there — at the ATM — that's when we're holding the proof. That's what makes the ATM zone proposal so despicable. It doesn't protect citizens or their property from crime. It only protects people with money from remembering that there are people with nothing.

We can't solve the homeless problem by handing out cash on the street. I don't mean to suggest that everyone who has enough money to have a bank account should give it to panhandlers. But surely we can all afford to remember that homeless people are people. They, not we, are fearful or guilty or disgusted onlookers, are the real victims.

If homelessness is ever going to be eliminated, we must take responsibility, individually and collectively, for the weakest members of our society. We must also take responsibility for the structural problems that cause homelessness. We will not solve anything as long as we are not even willing to look homeless people in the eye.

Libby Smith  
San Francisco

### Golden Opportunities Lost?

In the aftermath since the PAWS board meeting debacle, I have been very surprised to receive a number of calls from what I refer to as "silent donors," persons who have named PAWS in their wills as beneficiaries of large sums of money, but who are unknown to PAWS as they have kept their intent to themselves and their legal advisor(s).

The persons who contacted me were elderly, single men who are deeply concerned about their legacy to PAWS. My advice to them — as to anyone considering a major donation or bequest to charity — is to investigate through their attorney or CPA how the charity has spent their money in the past 18 months and to make an informed decision based upon the information obtained.

Frankly, I think it is very obvious that I heard from only a fraction of donors who are concerned about bequeathing money to PAWS. The shame of the bad publicity is that PAWS has no doubt lost a huge amount of bequests that they will never know about or will never recoup due solely to the bad manners and arrogance shown the fateful night of that meeting.

Had I been chairing the event, the meeting would have been held in a comfortable space — perhaps a donated church or school — where there was room for everyone to sit. Questions that could not be answered on the spot would be answered within 30 days by the board — in writing — and also added to the minutes; all concerns would have been aired and a policy statement regarding any changes would have been issued within 30 days of the meeting with copies to the press.

Further, a copy of the meeting agenda and the current financial statement would have been given to all in attendance so they could follow the proceedings and know what was going on.

Finally, I would have had a break between the general business meeting and the public input portion for everyone to meet (all PAWS board and staff would have already personally introduced themselves) and served light refreshments. It is always amazing to me how providing a friendly atmosphere can pave the way for a most successful airing of concerns and differences.

Alas, that requires thoughtful, caring, experienced professionals who have the confidence to know that good ideas can always be generated when you open your heart and mind to the people who support you both financially and emotionally. And knowing that good manners always pay off!

What a shame that a golden opportunity was forever lost.

Gordon Salter  
San Francisco

### Remembering a Dear Friend

My best friend, James Bergeron died of AIDS two years ago on March 22. I was thinking about him today, remembering a recent message he left me.

James and I met in a class called Modern American Mystics. After class we sat on the lawn at San Francisco State University discussing philosophy, his boyfriends and his parents. As we became closer friends, we hiked on Mount Tam, swam in a cold lake with a "No Swimming" sign, ate some wonderful dinners at San Francisco restaurants. James was the first person I talked to when my son, Downey (aka Stuart), came out. He took Downey on his first AIDS Candlelight Vigil the following week.

James still makes occasional appearances in my dreams. Most often, I hear his voice. Perhaps because we are both writers and talked endlessly together, he leaves me these thought-provoking messages. "This is not the time for carrying baggage," James' last message said. "This is a time for miracles."

I had been hard on myself right before the dream — unhappy with the moment, wondering what I would do that day, anxious about making decisions, concerned with what people thought of me. Hearing James' voice was a miracle in itself. His message made me stop and think about the miracles in my life.

Doors have opened for me since my son came out: meeting so many wonderful lesbian and gay people, hearts being so open, the fun of going to Josie's Juice Joint or the Castro Theatre, marching in the Pride Parade, planning the events for this year's PFLAG Convention. Spending Passover with my family is a miracle: good food, love, flowers on the table.

Sharing James' message with you — my extended family — is a miracle. You are a miracle. We all are.

Laura Siegel, P-FLAG  
Pacifica, CA

### Nice Article, But ...

Thank you for your article publicizing our exhibit, "Before Stonewall: San Francisco Lesbians and Gay Men on the Edge of Revolt," which is now on display (through Aug. 31) at the Harvey Milk Memorial Branch of the San Francisco Public Library.

I've learned a lot about local gay and lesbian history working on this exhibit that I had not known about before, which has been exciting. My hope for the exhibit is that people will come away with a better sense of the political battles fought (and victories won) by our community in San Francisco before Stonewall.

There is a correction I need to make to the article, though. While a lot of the material in the exhibit comes from Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon's collection at the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, there are a few things that they did not collect. Jose Sarria's campaign poster from 1961 is one of those — it is from Jose's personal collection.

Ellen Meyers, Board Member  
Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of  
Northern California  
San Francisco

### Pay Now, Dine Later

This is in response to Stephen Brown's letter in the May 26 issue of B.A.R. concerning the policy of Without Reservations collecting money first for to-go orders.

I have lived here for 22 years and have been in the restaurant business also. I have known the owners of Without Reservations for all of that time. Good people — may Mama rest in peace.

The policy of collecting upfront for to-go orders is very common. It has nothing to do with being Asian or straight.

With so many bars in the area and so many drunks trying to eat at night, it helps to keep the bottom line in the black — by collecting first.

The bars demand payment for a drink when served — not later. You pay first for buses, trains and planes. You pay first for a newspaper from a rack, theater, movies and door charges at clubs. You pay first at McDonald's, Burger King, Wendy's and Kentucky Fried Chicken. You pay first to place an ad in this or any other newspaper and for a book before you read it. So stop bitching. The owners are there to make a living. They only owe you what you pay for. And yes, Mr. Brown, you are a racist — just for mentioning the fact that they are not white. I assume you are white?

Robert Alton  
San Francisco

### Write to 'B.A.R.'

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

We prefer that letters be typewritten and double-spaced. Handwritten letters will be considered for publication only if clearly legible.

Letters may be edited for length or other appropriate considerations. B.A.R. reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter.

Wayne Friday

# Off and Running

**K**athleen Brown, Pete Wilson, Dianne Feinstein and most of the other candidates nominated for statewide office last week have made it clear that there will be no post-primary vacations in Hawaii or anyplace else this year. The stakes are much too high for any time off now.

Brown is attempting to take back the statehouse and become the first Democrat in a dozen years to lead California. However, the gubernatorial contest between Brown

has already accused Feinstein of not paying income tax for three years in particular, he himself has adamantly refused to release his own income tax returns, suggesting, somehow, that he has more of a right to privacy on such matters than the senator.

California is the most populous and politically powerful state, so what happens here in both the U.S. senate race and the gubernatorial contest will surely hint at presidential — and perhaps vice-presidential — possibilities in 1996. Many feel that if incumbent Governor Wilson is able to hold onto his Sacramento job, he will automatically become a Republican prospect for '96, and the Democrats have a special interest in seeing Feinstein returned to Washington, since she would surely help a Clinton re-election effort.

## United we stand

At a Republican Party "unity breakfast" June 8, Governor Wilson proclaimed that he was now heading a "united party" into the November general election, but his conservative primary opponent Ron Unz (who received a respectable 34 percent of the vote) was noticeably absent from the "unity" confab, as was former Rep. William Dannemeyer, who received a third of the GOP primary vote as Huffington's opponent.

The contest between Feinstein and her Republican challenger could be very tight, especially once the two nominees start spending the millions both know they need to use. Feinstein is expected to dwell on Huffington's limited political record and his short residency in California. Huffington has been in politics for under three years (he started running for the U.S. Senate shortly after being sworn into his first House term) and has actually been a state resident only a few months longer. "He's a legislative cypher, a carpetbagger from Texas who's trying to buy himself a senate seat with the millions he received from his family," said Feinstein of her challenger.

In response, Huffington will likely try to paint Senator Feinstein as a big-government, big-spending, high-tax liberal. "She's a career politician who never had a private sector job," he scoffed, suggesting that the also wealthy Feinstein has had "a silver life on the public dole" all her adult life.

Both candidates have raised questions about whether or not the other has paid enough income tax over the years, and while Huff-

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(Continued on page 18)

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California is the most populous and politically powerful state, so what happens here in both the U.S. senate race and the gubernatorial contest will surely hint at presidential — and perhaps vice-presidential — possibilities in 1996. Many feel that if incumbent Governor Wilson is able to hold onto his Sacramento job, he will automatically become a Republican prospect for '96, and the Democrats have a special interest in seeing Feinstein returned to Washington, since she would surely help a Clinton re-election effort.

The contest between Feinstein and her Republican challenger could be very tight, especially once the two nominees start spending the millions both know they need to use. Feinstein is expected to dwell on Huffington's limited political record and his short residency in California. Huffington has been in politics for under three years (he started running for the U.S. Senate shortly after being sworn into his first House term) and has actually been a state resident only a few months longer. "He's a legislative cypher, a carpetbagger from Texas who's trying to buy himself a senate seat with the millions he received from his family," said Feinstein of her challenger.

In response, Huffington will likely try to paint Senator Feinstein as a big-government, big-spending, high-tax liberal. "She's a career politician who never had a private sector job," he scoffed, suggesting that the also wealthy Feinstein has had "a silver life on the public dole" all her adult life.

Both candidates have raised questions about whether or not the other has paid enough income tax over the years, and while Huff-

ing

## People and politics

Feinstein supporters (and disgruntled Republicans who didn't support him) are quick to point out that Michael Huffington lost last week in his own Santa Barbara-area congressional district to none other than William Dannemeyer. "His home people know him best," crowed Republicans in his district.

"He's got his babe" — former Cher sidekick and Palm Springs Mayor Sonny Bono won nomination to the House last week from a heavily Republican desert congressional district and is very likely headed to Washington.

Singer Paul Simon, the latest big-name celeb to join the war against AIDS, raised \$900,000 in a single Dallas concert last week to fight the deadly disease.

Gay Pride: nearly 2,000 people turned out for last Saturday's Gay and Lesbian Day celebration in Boise, Idaho, nearly doubling last year's attendance. Participants took aim at the Idaho Citizens Alliance's drive against gay rights. Only this week, GOP Rep. Michael Crapo, an aptly named homophobe, indicated he was ready to join the anti-gay rights fight in his Boise area district.

Navy Secretary John Dalton last week banned discrimination against the service's civilian employees based on sexual preference. The directive applied to the Navy's 252,000 civilian employees, and is in line with Equal Employment Opportunity Commission rules. The Navy is the first armed service to issue such a statement, but others are expected to follow suit.

Do they know something we don't? An editorial in last Thursday's *Los Angeles Times* referred to Tony Miller as "Secretary of State-elect Tony Miller." Let's hope they prove to be correct.

(Continued on page 18)

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**by Tim Sniffen**

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## Dykeotomy

# Memento Mentors

by Nancy Boutilier

**B**y the time I arrived at the picnic, the volleyball game was in full swing. Dance music pounded out of the tape deck, a Frisbee sailed across the field, and plenty of potato salad remained for late-comers like me.

Someone had posted a rainbow flag on the volleyball net, and next door, at the adjacent picnic area, flew the troop flag of the Boy Scouts, having a field day of their own in Golden Gate Park.

about 40 people, allowed mentors-to-be and young people to meet casually, play Frisbee, and get acquainted before the matches are made. Twenty-five potential mentors completed an intensive orientation program in the spring. Program Director Elisabeth Friedman said that she expects a dozen matches to be made in the upcoming weeks. A variety of reference checks and interviews will take place, and the young people now have a standing invitation to request a mentor.

It's exciting to see the development of such a program — exciting for the young people as well as the mentors. This past weekend also happened to be graduation weekend at the high school where I teach. And for each parent who offered me thanks for mentoring their child through the year, I offered two thank-yous in return — one to the parents for sharing their children with me, and one to the students themselves for challenging me to grow and learn with them.

This year I found myself inspired, for example, when one of my students who timidly came out to me a year ago mustered up the courage to write an article about being gay for the school newspaper this past winter. Then, when the yearbook arrived a week ago, I saw that his senior page included a triangle and the words "Be Proud" next to a picture of himself standing atop a mountain.

### Commentary

My picnic was the kickoff event of the Lambda Youth Family Empowerment (LYFE) Program's new Mentoring Program for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth. Supported by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, the Mentoring Program has been established to provide opportunities for queer youth to form supportive and stable relationships with adults who have encountered many of the same social and personal challenges. It is the first such program in the country.

The picnic, which drew



A DramaDIVA acts out.

(Photo: David Allen)

were as delighted by their performance as the audience was.

When someone asked about the decision-making and editing process, Moraga, who directed the show, spoke of the role of collaboration in the writing process, but dismissed the myth of an organic, non-hierarchical means of directing a show. "Don't be fooled," Moraga said, "they are directed." Laughter from the cast. Someone called Moraga "God," and then Rebekah Eisenberg, a former DramaDIVA who is doing the lighting and sound for the show, added, "A caring god."

When Moraga spoke of the "mutual respect" that she and the DramaDIVAS afford one

**The energy in  
that small  
theater space  
said more  
about  
community  
and pride  
than anything  
I expect to see  
or hear at  
Stonewall 25.**

another "as artists," heads bobbed in agreement. The energy in that small theater space said more about community and pride than anything I expect to see or hear at Stonewall 25.

Three-year DramaDIVA Yvette Gomez said her time with Moraga has been "a healing journey" and called their relationship a "priceless friendship, with mutual respect on a personal and professional level."

Gomez added, "If Cherrie has been mentor, it's because she lets us lead the way for ourselves, and she's there when we need her to give us a little push or show us other ways."

That sounds like a pretty solid recipe for mentoring, if *(Continued on page 26)*

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# FCC is Full of It

by Al Kielwasser

The Federal Communications Commission has fined radio station KNOM (Dallas, Texas) \$12,500 for broadcasting a song entitled "I Wanna Be a Homosexual" by the gay punk band Screaming Weasel. The song was broadcast on "Lambda Weekly," KNOM's 11-year-old lesbian/gay show.

The gruff lyrics of "I Wanna Be a Homosexual" include such choice phrases as "Shock the middle class, take it up your ass." According to the FCC, however, the fine was not based on the song's sexual lyrics, but on the use of the word "shit." The last line of the song declares: "You're so full of shit, why don't you admit you don't have the balls to be queer?"

Despite the FCC's fecal excuses, its action against KNOM was prompted by homophobes. The FCC fine resulted from a complaint filed by Wyatt Roberts, director of The American Family Association (AFA) of Dallas County, a heterosexual supremacist organization. Claiming a victory for the homophobic cause, Roberts announced the KNOM ruling in the May 1994 issue of the AFA newsletter *Christians & Society Today*. AFA members across the country have been encouraged to file similar complaints with the FCC.

The FCC — strictly speaking — was not acting against the song's "homosexual" content. Still, the FCC should be encouraged to reconsider the rationality of a policy that defines the word "shit" as "obscene" and "patently offensive." After all, the word is certainly no more "obscene" or "offensive" than the daily broadcasts by such hate mongers as Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell.

Share your thoughts with the Federal Communications Commission, Mass Media Bureau, 2021 M. Street, NW, Room 8210, Washington, DC 20554, tel. 202-632-7048.

Support for "Lambda Weekly" may be directed to the program's host/producer, Steve Walters, and to Bobbie Elliott, Station Manager, KNOM Radio, P.O. Box 710909, Dallas, TX 75371, tel. 214-828-9500, fax 214-823-8039

## Bumbling Bee

Gregory Favre, Executive Editor of *The Sacramento Bee*, has announced that he will accept the "Citizen of the Year Award" from the Golden Empire Council of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). The BSA actively promotes homophobic bigotry and will not allow gay youth or adults to participate in the international organization.

Would Favre accept a "Citizen of the Year Award" from the KKK? The BSA award is just as dubious an honor. And more importantly: Will Favre's newspaper provide adequate (or any) coverage of the BSA's virulent homophobia, and the tremendous harm it does to gay youth? Send let-

ters to Gregory Favre, Executive Editor, *The Sacramento Bee*, 21st & Q Street, Sacramento, CA 95916, tel. 916-321-1001.

## Bigot Scouts of America

The latest fundraising letter from the Boy Scouts of America/San Francisco Bay Area Council is an appeal to homophobia. In the letter, BSA Executive Vice President Thomas Bennett writes: "The national Boy Scout policy prohibits admitting declared homosexual persons into membership or into adult volunteer leadership in Scouting. This commitment to family values — the strength of the Boy Scouts and America — has been costly to us. Wells Fargo Bank, the Clorox Corporation, P.G.& E., Levi Strauss, and Kaiser Hospitals, have followed the United Way in denying eligibility for funding to the Bay Area Boy Scouts." He further pleads: "These actions have helped create a loss of over \$600,000 for the support of the mission of Scouting . . . Money is needed to support the vital programs of Scouting, especially in the schools, throughout Alameda and San Francisco counties."

In lieu of cash, contribute your thoughts on "family values" to Thomas R. Bennett, Executive V.P., Boy Scouts of America, San Francisco Bay Area Council, 124 Beale Street, Suite 402, San Francisco, CA 94105, tel. 415-543-8780, fax 415-543-0863.

You can also lend your support to those companies targeted by Bennett, companies that have refused to bankroll the BSA's homophobia. Contact: Richard Clarke, CEO, P.G.& E., 525 Market Street, S.F., CA, tel. 415-973-2496; Craig Sullivan, CEO, Clorox, P.O. Box 24305, Oakland, CA 94623, tel. 510-271-2713; Carl Reichardt, CEO, Wells Fargo, 420 Montgomery St., S.F., CA 94104, tel. 415-396-4046; Robert Haas, President, Levi Strauss, 1155 Battery St., S.F., CA, tel. 415-544-6133; Rosemary Fox, Acting chief Administrator, Kaiser Hospitals, 2425 Geary, S.F., CA, tel. 415-202-3500.

## Media Briefs

Prompted by the American Family Association, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's toll-free number (800-356-2626) continues to be flooded with calls condemning *Tales of the City* (and other programs that "promote" homosexuality).

"International Homosexual Theatre Amsterdam" (IHTA) is an international center for all queer art, from drama to video, and seeks to encourage artists "living in liberal countries, as well as those living in countries where homosexuality is hardly tolerated or not at all." Contact: IHTA Foundation, p/o Koninginneweg 61, 1075 CH Amsterdam, Holland.

The Journal of Australian Lesbian Feminist Studies is a forum for "lesbian research and radical feminist ideas." Contact: JALFS, P.O. Box 364, Glebe 2037, Australia.

We must confront homophobia to cure it! To notify the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of any defamatory media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, write to GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro Street, Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. Call our main office at 415-861-4588; fax, 415-861-4893; South Bay, 408-235-0229; East Bay, 510-273-9146; North Bay, 415-647-3055. ▼



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## Community News



I love a man in uniform: The crowd on Santa Monica Blvd. at LA's June 12 Christopher Street West Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade roared for this no-name "patriotic" group. Flags hung at half-mast after numerous requests.

(Photo: Karen Ocam)

## LA is Tres Gay for One Day

by Karen Ocam

Supermodel Ru Paul and the sunshine arrived a little late for the annual Christopher Street West Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade June 12. But once underway, everyone had a hot time. Attendance was down this year to 250,000 from 300,000 which Parade officials attribute to the change in date — to accommodate Stonewall 25 in New York — and the myriad of last minute internal problems that almost forced the cancellation of the festival and parade. Last year's hit, then Mayor-to-be Richard Riordan was absent this year because of the date change, as was Los Angeles Police Chief Willie Williams who apparently

wanted to march but was out of town. However for the first time ever, three openly gay LAPD officers marched and waved the Rainbow Flag in full uniform with several supporters. They received tremendous applause — especially from those who remembered the animosity towards gays from former LAPD Chief Daryl Gates. Two of the three openly gay LA Sheriff's deputies were there recruiting as well.

This year also marked the absence of major politicians such as gubernatorial candidate Kathleen Brown, though new openly gay primary winners Sheila James Kuehl and Tony Miller rode in designated cars. Also honored were openly gay L.A. City Council-

women Jackie Goldberg and CSW co-founder Morris Kight, who were Woman and Man of the Year.

This year was also marked — at least to a casual observer — by a preponderance of drag queens in honor of Stonewall. There also seemed to be more young lesbians and gays of color strolling arm and arm through the festival. They seemed especially thrilled to see RuPaul, who premiered "Free To Be" on tape. By the way, the number of perennial Christian fundamentalist protesters was down this year — with one yelling: "You're going to go to hell, woman!" to Ru Paul as she blew kisses at them from atop her passing float. ▼

## Freedom Day

(Continued from page 1)

"Angry Ministers Rip Police," signalled a new day: never again would gay men and lesbian women think they were alone and powerless. The event has become known as "San Francisco's Stonewall," to the annoyance of some San Franciscans who are rightly proud the gay pride movement ignited here first.

It was the Stonewall riots in June 1969, in the heart of

New York City's Greenwich Village, that caught the attention of the nation's media, which dubbed it the beginning of modern gay rights activism. Since then, gay folk have used that date as the official anniversary.

The march date has been moved to June 19 to accommodate the many people expected to travel to New York City for Stonewall 25 and Gay Games IV. Gay Games opening ceremonies take place June 18, and the

Stonewall 25 march will be June 26.

Here in San Francisco, we, too, march in celebration in June. Perhaps because the weather is nicer than on New Year's Eve, or because people already have plans that night, or because this time of year has become the traditional one to contemplate the advances we've made and the goals we have yet to achieve.

In any case, there isn't one day that's better suited for being proud of being gay. Every day is gay pride day. ▼

## Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

swimmers and those who will be in the diving competitions," Jordan told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Because Jordan will be in New York City supporting local lesbian and gay athletes, he will miss the annual Gay Freedom Day Parade in San Francisco.

"The Gay Games tie into the Stonewall 25 anniversary. You also have Gay Pride Week and Gay Freedom Day and when you put all these together, we've come a long way," Jordan said.

But although there have been substantial gains in the struggle for gay rights, Jordan said, that struggle is far from over.

"Lesbian and gay people are a vibrant part of the mainstream of society and we have to continue to educate people

about the need for civil and human rights," he told the *B.A.R.* "Gay Freedom Day provides a opportunity to reflect on the progress of and to celebrate, but the fight isn't over until full equality is achieved. Continue to celebrate Gay Freedom Day and continue to march for your just due."

"What we have accomplished in San Francisco can

also educate others around the United States and the world," Jordan said.

The Team San Francisco contingent includes an estimated 1,500 San Francisco Bay Area athletes participating in the competitions, plus about 800 supporters from the area.

Opening ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday, June 18 in New York City. ▼

## Long Beach Gets Sandy

More than 25,000 people attended the 11th annual pride festivities in Long Beach last month. The two day festival at Shoreline Aquatic Park included a parade attended by 50,000 spectators on May 22. 150 different community groups, civic and government leaders and candidates. Festival organizers reported that actress Sandy Duncan also rode in the parade promoting a production of *South Pacific* by the Long Beach Civic Light Opera. The annual event is a fundraiser for Long Beach lesbian and gay groups. Last year's festival raised over \$130,000 that was distributed to about 100 lesbian and gay non-profit groups in the area.

# Capitol Pride in Sacramento

by Marghe Covino

Sacramento CA— Pride celebrations all over the country are being held earlier this year to accommodate the expected exodus to New York's Stonewall 25 celebration.

The State Capitol's celebrations were no exception. Kicking off the season was the beautifully orchestrated and executed \$75-a-plate dinner put on by the bi-partisan California Capitol Political Action Committee (CAPPAC).

On Friday, June 3, the long-awaited Lambda Community Center Awards Dinner featured a reprise of the Center's work, but several awards were made to people from out of the area. This year the Center instituted a new award for in-your-face activism as epitomized by ACT UP and San Francisco's late Everett Denman. The idea for the award is credited to the Center's founder, Jerry Sloan, who said he "thought it would be a hoot and a real tribute to Everett to name the award, The Everett Denman Brown Spoon Award, because there was no one who could stir up shit better than Everett". Denman's parents and his life partner Evan Deerfield were there to present the award to this year's winners, Lucy Galindo, clinic defender for SACOAR, and San Francisco activist/attorney Alison Gude. Gude is currently spending three months doing legal research at Camp Sister Spirit in Mississippi.

Another award went to Assemblymember Terry Friedman with thanks for his work for social justice for lesbians and gay men.

Dr. Elizabeth Harrison of San Francisco's Lesbian Health Research Foundation received the Fighting Breast Cancer Award and a special tribute was made to Jayne Roundtree, a community activist who is battling for her life with the disease. The Fighting AIDS Award went to Sheila Enders of UC Davis Medical Center, and a special award in that category went to Tim "Cheech" Cincinato.

For the first time, the mainstream community, through the Hate Crimes Task Force, was represented at the dinner, including the N.A.A.C.F., the Japanese American Citizen's League, the Chicano Consortium, and Deputy U.S. Attorney General Miguel Rodriguez, to name a few.

On Saturday, June 11, the Lambda Freedom Fair was held on the West and North sides of the State Capitol. The Rainbow Flag hung from the Capitol balcony and was a backdrop for a giant arch of rainbow-colored balloons, which framed the stage set up on the West steps of the Capitol.

Ironically, only a few years ago, the Capitol was the scene of a major confrontation between the State Police and demonstrators protesting Gov. Pete Wilson's veto of AB 101. Instead, on Saturday at the Fair, over 20,000 people ate, drank, shopped, filled out questionnaires, played with kids and dogs, picnicked, had massages, acupuncture, fake tattoos, threw darts at Rush Limbaugh balloons, viewed

parts of the AIDS Quilt, danced, sang and were entertained. San Francisco comic Maureen "Mo" Brownsey was a showstopper, as was a quartet in WWII uniforms who "gaily" harmonized '40s songs with hilarious gestures.

The State Police and Sacramento Police Department patrolled through the crowd, but as is usual with the Fair, had little to do except pose for pictures and enjoy the snacks and sodas. Lambda Board member and Fair Coordinator Kathy Finnerty said, "the state people told me ours was the largest, most peaceful group they've ever had at the Capitol. They invited us back for next year."

Ever-ready to party, Sacramentans are now getting ready to head for this weekend's parade and street fair in San Francisco and then on to Stonewall 25 and the Gay Games IV. ▼



A Capitol idea: Organizers and volunteers set up for the 10th annual Lambda Freedom Fair June 11 on the west steps of the Capitol, which was draped with a rainbow flag. (Photo: Marghe Covino)

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## Community Briefs

by Dennis Conkin

### Wadia Dinner and Discussion

Indian Filmmaker Riyad Wadia is one of several South Asian filmmakers who will be honored at a dinner and a reception at The Eye Gallery in San Francisco on June 18.

Riyad's film, *Fearless: The Hunterwali Story*, is the first entry from India ever to be featured in the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

Sponsored by Trikone: Gay and Lesbian South Asians, the event includes a gourmet Indian dinner.

Other filmmakers who will be honored at the reception include Hima B. (Straight For the Money, USA) and Gurinder Chadha (Bhaji on the Beach, U.K.).

The honorees will participate in a panel discussion titled "South Asian Filmmakers: Breaking The Silence on Sexuality and Sexism."

According to Arvind Kumar, a spokesperson for Trikone, India has seen the birth of five gay and lesbian publications in the last four years and the founding of more than ten lesbian and gay support groups.

Admission to the event is \$10-20 sliding scale. The Eye Gallery is located at 1151 Mission Street between 7th and 8th Street. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. For more information call Trikone at 270-8776 or The Eye Gallery at 415 775-5825. ▼

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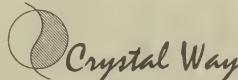
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## Community News

# Rainbow Flag Sews The Fabric of a Queer Nation

by John Antalek

On Sunday, June 26, the largest rainbow flag in history will be carried through Manhattan for this year's Stonewall 25 international gay pride march. During the one-time-only event, the flag is expected to raise more than half of a million dollars for AIDS charities nationwide.

The Raise The Rainbow project will gather more than 10,000 people to unfurl and carry the mammoth, mile-long flag during the International March on the United Nations. It will weigh over 3 1/2 tons and over 10 million stitches (sixty miles of thread) will be used to hold the 17,000 yards of fabric together. It will be 30 feet wide and three times the height of the Empire State Building.

The Rainbow Flag is recognized worldwide as a symbol of the gay and lesbian rights movement. It is made up of six vibrant colors, each with its own meaning. The red symbolizes life and blood, the orange is for healing, the green is for nature, the blue is for emotions, the yellow for the soul and the purple ("pansexual" purple) is for spirit.

In May of 1978, Gilbert Baker, a San Francisco designer and gay activist, was asked to create a symbol for the upcoming Freedom Day Parade that would capture the excitement of the gay and lesbian freedom movement. The community needed to adopt a recognizable symbol that represented their unique lifestyle and embodied a positive message about human rights.

"A flag must transcend the personalities behind it and symbolize the community it represents," Baker said. He felt that the rainbow was a perfect way to describe the diversity of the homosexual community and an ideal metaphor for individuals that he considered a "magical and beautiful part of nature."

The original flag, made of organic cotton, was hand-dyed in garbage cans, rinsed by fire hydrants and stitched by hand by Baker and over 20



Gilbert Baker (center), creator of the original rainbow flag, is constructing a mile-long rainbow flag in the Raise the Rainbow workshop in New York with help from local volunteers.

(Photo: Mick Hicks)

"The completed flag will exist for 40 days only and then it will be cut into yard-long strips and given to those people who registered to carry it," said Erika Freiberger, Media Relations spokesperson for The Stadtlanders Foundation.

Stadtlanders pharmacy, Raise The Rainbow's corporate sponsor, is a nationwide pharmacy that serves people living with HIV/AIDS and other chronic conditions. The donations of the pharmacy and other sponsors such as the magazines *NEXT*, *Genre* and the *Advocate* will cover the total cost of the flag and every dollar donated will go directly to charity.

The Stadtlanders Foundation was established in 1993 to offer direct support to national charitable endeavors that improve life quality for the chronically ill.

"No one person has rights to the flag, it is part of the public domain," Baker said. "That keeps it in the free enterprise system so imaginative and creative people can do things with it like Stadtlanders is."

For more information about Raise The Rainbow or to register by phone, call 1-800-NYC-1994. To register by mail, print your name, address and phone number and send it with a tax deductible contribution of \$50 or more to The Stadtlanders Foundation, 600 Penn Center Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA, 15235-5810. ▼

**"A flag must transcend the personalities behind it and symbolize the community it represents."**  
**- Gilbert Baker, Rainbow flag creator**

created to be the largest ever flown.

The Guinness people have been notified about the Stonewall flag's size but it is not known yet if it will be counted in their book as the new world record holder because it must meet certain qualifications, one being that it must be flown.

## Frank Schedules Sister Spirit Hearings

by Bob Roehr

Prompted by "the non-protection of the lesbians" of Camp Sister Spirit, openly gay Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA) has scheduled a fact-finding hearing of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights. It is set for July 6 in Jackson, Mississippi.

"This isn't the most popular event in the history of official Mississippi," said Frank. "We've got to go to a federal building." The closest is in Jackson, the state capital, in the central part of the state. Camp Sister Spirit is in the hamlet of Overt, more than a hundred miles to the southeast.

Frank wanted to check on the status of mediation initiated by the Community Relations Service (CRS) of the Justice Department. Is it working? Does it need greater

statutory authority? Should even broader legislation be considered?

"Do we need an expanded federal role where people are being abused by essentially private citizens, and the local officials won't help them?" asked Frank.

"Right now, if local officials fail to protect you, in some limited circumstances the federal government can step in. But, contrary to what people expect, there are not general federal responsibilities to step in and protect people."

Frank initially proposed the hearing in February, when the controversy heated up. He delayed it at the joint request of the Justice Department and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). CRS was then preparing to send mediators into the area.

"We are afraid that a hearing during the mediation process would interfere with the

mediation process and actually being able to help the women and protect them," said NGLTF executive director Peri Jude Radecic at that time. "We would rather have trained mediation people go down there and deal with the situation first."

The legal authority of CRS to intervene was challenged by local citizens, but that challenge was subsequently thrown out of court. CRS efforts to mediate appear to have been largely frustrated by non-cooperation.

In February, speaking with a group of lesbian and gay local elected officials, Frank noted that this was the 30th anniversary of the Mississippi Freedom Summer, an important part of the 1960's civil rights movement. He participated in that, he said, and was returning to Mississippi for the still ongoing struggle for civil rights. ▼

# AIDS Budget Up by \$5 Million

by Marghe Covino  
B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

Sacramento, CA — For the first time in four years the State Legislature's budget conference committee voted to approve an additional \$5 million for HIV prevention, education and anonymous testing programs. Robert Rios, lobbyist for the LIFE/AIDS Lobby was jubilant.

## TB In Wasting Syndrome

by Amy S. Hansen (UPI)

Washington - Tuberculosis causes far more cases of African human immunodeficiency virus wasting syndrome than previously thought, according to a study published Friday.

HIV wasting syndrome had been associated with an intestinal parasite, but this study shows that TB is a bigger problem. Victims of HIV wasting syndrome, also called slim disease, have lost much of their body weight. The syndrome is especially common in African countries, with up to 80 percent of hospitalized AIDS patients having lost more than a tenth their body weight. The term "slim" was first used in Uganda in 1985 to describe this condition. At one point, the World Health Organization included this feature as part of the definition of acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The condition later was included in the definition of HIV wasting syndrome for resource-poor countries, according to the study, published in the *British Medical Journal*.

The study's authors said they examined the bodies of more than 200 HIV patients in the Ivory Coast, and found that nearly half of the 93 patients with slim disease had TB. The scientists concluded the most severe cases of slim disease were also the most severe cases of TB. But TB treatment was not mentioned in the patients' medical records.

"Tuberculosis is difficult to diagnose," said the lead author, Dr. S. Lucas of London Medical School. He said the large amounts of TB in the body make it the likely cause of the wasting syndrome. Previously, health care providers thought the syndrome was caused by a parasite and lack of food.

Because tuberculosis is treatable in its early stages, Lucas said their findings should have important implications for African cities.

"Even greater attention must be paid to tuberculosis where HIV is prevalent," he said.

However, he noted this news may not help victims of slim disease, who have already lost too much body weight to respond to treatment. ▼

lant. "This is a tremendous victory," he said, recalling that every year advocates have made pleas and presented irrefutable arguments regarding the necessity for additional funds to address HIV and AIDS at the earliest possible time — "which is before it's contracted," Rios said. "But every year, it's been the same story, the Legislature has always used the state's fiscal crisis as an excuse to deny funding," Rios told B.A.R. "Now the extremity of the AIDS crisis has demanded their attention — they realize that we'll either pay now or pay even more later."

The increase will see the state budget for HIV prevention and education go from the present \$15.1 million to \$18.1 million, a \$3 million increase. State run anonymous HIV testing programs will be increased by \$2 million, putting the budget at \$8.3 million.

Rios was especially happy at those figures. "Both of these programs have been

severely underfunded — without a cure or a vaccine, prevention education is the best tool we have to fight this disease, and anonymous testing has proved to be the most effective way for people to learn their HIV status and receive counseling on risk-reduction," he said.

Rios cited that between eight and 10,000 new cases of HIV are diagnosed in California each year. According to the State Office of AIDS, over 288,000 HIV tests were performed at state-funded test sites in 1993. "Each time we prevent an infection, we not only save a life, but we save the state \$115,000 in lifetime costs for caring for a person with AIDS. New money for prevention and testing is not only the humane thing to do — but it's cost-effective, too," Rios said.

In order for the new funding to be accessed, the state budget must be passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor by June 30 this year. ▼

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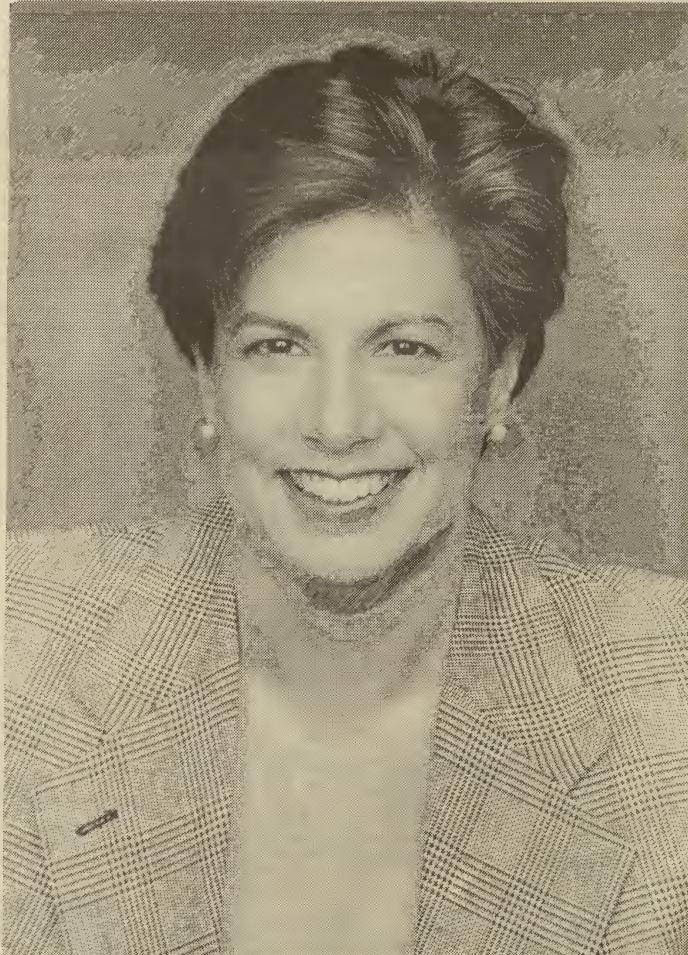
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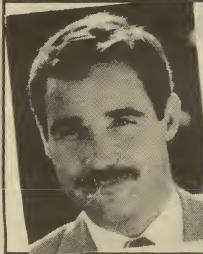
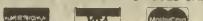


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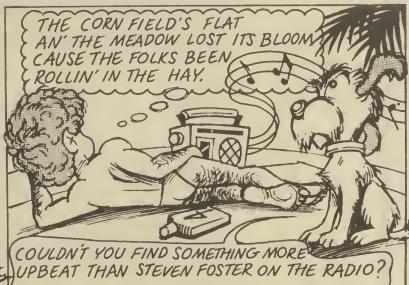
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## Community News

# SF Activists Discuss PWA Prison Abuse With Assemblyman

by Marghe Covino

B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

Sacramento, CA — San Francisco activists met with Assemblymember Phil Isenberg on Friday, June 3. The group felt that Isenberg, as the successor to John Burton on the crucial Assembly Public Safety Committee, needed to be briefed on the issues of HIV and AIDS in California's prisons.

The group's organizer, Jim Lewis, of ACT UP/S.F., formerly a member of the Director of Correction's AIDS Advisory Committee, has been tireless in his efforts to bring humane treatment and AIDS medical care to the men and women in California's prisons. "We brought a lot of material for Mr. Isenberg to see," Lewis said, "some of it is literally unbelievable. We have reports that 25 men have been shot, five of them killed, in Corcoran just since the first of the year.

"We have issues of medical neglect and enough civil rights violations, sick prisoners hog-tied and beaten, people screaming in pain in their last hours on dirty beds, no pain medication, not even aspirin available to them. Stale and rotten food, no HIV testing, a complete denial on the part of prison officials as to how it is being transmitted and, of course, no education,



Assemblymember Phil Isenberg. (Photo: Marghe Covino)

no condoms, no nothing. The Department of Corrections in this state alone is enough to keep Amnesty International busy for years," Lewis said.

According to Lewis, the meeting with Isenberg went well, however, Lewis felt that since the group had such a short allotted time to spend with him that Isenberg spent a great deal of their allotted time talking about the political "climate" in the Legislature and the reasons that some of the problems can't be addressed.

Even Lewis acknowledged the present proclivity for "blaming all of society's ills on one group of people, and the legislators are pandering to that for all they're worth," he said. "The power and size of the Correctional Officer's union is also a big factor, but rather than respond as leaders, some legislators buckle to the money and the power. The ironic thing," Lewis told B.A.R., "is they feed the monster. Even though they know it's wrong they provide more and more money for personnel and expansion of the prison system, thereby creating more of a problem for themselves as well as everyone else, because the bill is gonna come due," Lewis said.

Regardless of political climate, Dr. Corey Weinstein addressed a letter to Isenberg raising issues regarding the level of medical care in California prisons. Judy Greenspan, former director of the ACLU Prison Project in Washington state, raised issues of medical neglect at Chowchilla Prison for women and the lack of testing for hepatitis C and multiple drug-resistant TB screening and the consequent danger to the

public. "People get released from prison with no idea about the implications of their diseases or the impact those diseases will have on their family members and the community," Lewis said. "They are being released with virtually no information about their disease and with no referrals to agencies which would be able to continue their care."

The group presented Isenberg with a list of well over 100 serious human and civil rights violations, as well as excerpts from two lawsuits which are currently filed.

They also brought a copy of the Burton Report, which detailed abuses prevalent in 1992 and recommendations to improve them. The current recommendations include the need for:

- An Assembly-sponsored investigation of medical care in all California prisons but especially at Chowchilla, Corcoran, California Men's Colony and Pelican Bay;

- Creation of an ongoing office of Inspector-General with meaningful grassroots citizen participation and the powers and funding to adequately monitor medical and civil rights issues and report to the Legislature;

- Mandate an independent audit of the California Department of Corrections' annual budgets to determine why allocated tax monies fail to secure community standard level of health care;

- A reexamination of compassionate release and medical parole legislation. The present system often takes longer than the inmate has to live and no fewer than seven people must evaluate the inmate's condition before release is possible.

- Transfer responsibility for medical care to the Department of Health, the University of California system or some other qualified institution. Currently prison MTAs which are prison guards with first aid training, are being paid \$56,000 a year — much more than licensed nurses receive.

- Hire infectious disease specialists for staff positions in any institution which houses HIV/AIDS populations.

- Sick prisoners should not be released into the community without information about their disease and the referrals to agencies which will continue their care and treatment.

In a conversation with B.A.R. after the meeting, Isenberg said he was impressed with the group and found them extremely knowledgeable. "They're good people," he said, "and they brought reams of paper and reading materials, which I will review."

Meanwhile Jim Lewis, weighing the need against inaction, is seriously considering moving the issue to a larger forum. "We can't continue to treat human beings like this. In some cases, the beatings, the brutality and lack of medical care for HIV/AIDS inmates are so horrific we might as well be talking about a Banana Republic here. We're already talking to the Feds," Lewis continued, *(Continued on next page)*

eye on the right ☺

## Pants Down at Armageddon

### Is There a Theocracy in America's Future?

by Jo Martin, Project Tocsin

The National Coordinating Council is made up of Christian leaders from the ranks of the Coalition On Revival (COR) and other reformation/activist groups. Fifty national leaders working in 24 different ministries and professions have developed a five-year plan "to return America and Canada to the Biblical foundations which made North America a great, and one time, Christianized society." In 60 major cities, "Gideon's Warrior Elders" will be identified who are "willing to die for Christ."

A "single, coordinated, interdependent spiritual army" will create a "Ministry Merge Network." Here are three goals of this effort:

- Education: Work towards replacing all local public schools with private schools by 2000 A.D.;

- Tax Reform: Work towards dismantling the IRS by 2000 A.D.

- Kingdom Banks, Trusts, Investment & Insurance Companies:

- Work toward dismantling the Federal Reserve System by 2000 A.D.

These goals are highly revolutionary if not subversive. It is imperative that as patriots and citizens we should fully educate ourselves about this movement. In Texas, the influence of two of these leaders has been seen in school board elections and in the Harris County (Houston) Republican Party.

Bob Simmonds, founder of the National Association of Christian Educators and Citizens for Excellence in Education, and Steven Hotze, founder of Citizens for American Restoration, are serious players in this game plan on both local and national levels. Both are signers of the Christian Manifesto and are on the steering committee of the Coalition On Revival. Hotze also has a close association with Gary DeMar, a Christian revisionist historian.

Hotze also serves on the board of DeMar's Worldview magazine. DeMar is an avowed Reconstructionist and rails against those too timid to call themselves Reconstructionists. Hotze, an allergist, who has a medical practice in Houston, Texas, has been very successful in the takeover of the Harris County Republican Party.

Next week we'll take a look at the Founding Fathers and the revisionist history which is used to change their intent.

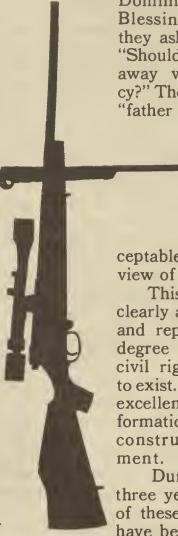
Wayne House and Thomas Ice have studied the Reconstructionist Movement from the inside. Ice is a former Reconstructionist and a graduate of the Dallas Theological Seminary. H. Wayne House is an assistant professor of systematic theology at Dallas Theological Seminary and a graduate of Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, Concordia Seminary, and O.W. Coburn School of Law. In their book, *Dominion Theology: Blessing or Curse?*, they ask the question, "Should Christians do away with Democracy?" They note that the "father of Reconstructionism," R.J. Rushdoony has "often stated that democracy is unacceptable to a proper view of biblical law."

This movement is clearly anti-democratic and repressive to the degree that personal civil rights will cease to exist. The book is an excellent source of information on the Reconstruction Movement.

During the past three years, a number of these same leaders have been involved in ongoing theological debate about the Kingdom of God. They have produced what they call "the 25 Articles of Affirmation and Denial on the Kingdom of God." They invite anyone to present their arguments and criticisms to Crosswinds, the COR magazine. COR is also co-sponsoring the North American Protestant Church Council in Washington, D.C., July 25-30, 1994. Dr. James D. Kennedy, senior minister of the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, will be moderator of that event. Kennedy is very influential in evangelical circles and won the George Washington honor medal award from the Freedoms Foundation in 1971 for his sermon, "What You Can Do About Communism."

Leaders feel there is a need for this council to establish consensus on "...what is the true Biblical doctrine and what is error on a number of issues now dividing the greater Body of Christ." This is described as an attempt to create a 1990s version of the first seven great Ecumenical Councils beginning with the Council of Nicea in A.D. 325. This council will be followed by two more councils in 1995 and 1996. ▼

(Continued from previous page)  
"but we just might have to put this into an international arena — like Amnesty International. How else will we be able to sleep at night," he asks, "while human beings shiver in underheated cells and have no blankets; while one is kept in an isolation cell, even though his untreated epileptic seizures keep him screaming for help he remains alone; while one goes



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## Community News

# HRCF Dinner a Big Success

by Wayne Friday

A record crowd of 1700 people turned out for last Saturday night's 10th Annual San Francisco Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner held at the Fort Mason Center Pavilion. The dinner, entitled "History in the Making," was one of several held in cities around the country as a way of raising funds for campaigns of pro-gay and lesbian candidates and for lobbying efforts in Washington.

Last year, through lobbying by organizations such as the HRCF, several important victories were won, and numerous gay and lesbian candidates and those supportive of our rights were elected to public office. In Washington, gays and lesbians and their supporters convinced the Senate to confirm openly lesbian and gay nominees to positions in the executive branch, got Congress to pass record levels of spending for AIDS research and health care, and won approval of legislation to

reorganize the Office of AIDS Research at the National Institute of Health. In addition, both Houses of Congress included "sexual orientation" in the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act, the first congressional legislation to explicitly protect lesbian and gay Americans.

The HRCF maintains a full-time staff in Washington, and though it has its critics in the gay community (see "HRCF: Troubled Giant"), many credit this organization with many of the advances the lesbian and gay community has made in the nation's capital. The fund has 80,000 members around the country and is considered one of the most effective organizations of its kind.

Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts, a strong supporter of gay and lesbian causes, was a featured speaker at the Saturday dinner, as was Donna Shalala, the secretary of Health and Human Services. The event, which was also

billed as a "Salute to James Hormel," one of the gay community's best-known and most respected activists and philanthropists, also honored longtime community activists Sherry Thomas and David Bell.

Among the numerous local and state candidates introduced at Saturday night's sold-out dinner were Attorney General nominee Tom Umberg; Insurance Commissioner nominee Art Torres; Superintendent of Public Instruction nominee Delaine Eastin; Supervisors Carole Migden, Susan Leal, and Kevin Shelley; Supervisor candidate Tom Ammiano; and numerous other office-holders and would-be office-holders.

Tony Miller, the openly gay nominee for secretary of state and clearly a crowd favorite, received a standing ovation, as did Hormel and the featured speakers, though Miller's ovation went on for five minutes. ▼

## Friday

(Continued from page 9)

A convicted liar wins the GOP Senate nomination in Virginia (and Ollie North breathes new hope into the Democrats' chances of keeping that seat) and a convicted dope addict (Marion Barry) announces he is running again for mayor in the nation's capital — and we wonder why only a third of eligible voters even bother.

Some local backers think Supervisor Carole Migden should seek an Assembly seat

the next time around, though Carole is said to be leaning toward a run at Frank Jordan's job.

The Republican Party is quickly becoming known as The God Party, as religious conservatives take over the party machinery in state after state. Texas was the last when Christian fundamentalist Republicans grabbed control of the party there last week.

Local politicos and reporters are scratching their heads as to why Assessor Doris Ward, with no opponent, spent thousands and

plastered the city with those God-awful campaign signs. Oh well, someone has to keep the political consultants eating, don't they? But is money that easy to get from your friends, Doris?

In Sacramento they are whispering that LA Assemblywoman Gwen Moore is none too happy that Speaker Willie Brown talked her out of running for another sure term and for secretary of state instead. Well, what the hell, Willie had to have his candidate, didn't he?

See you all at the parade Sunday. ▼

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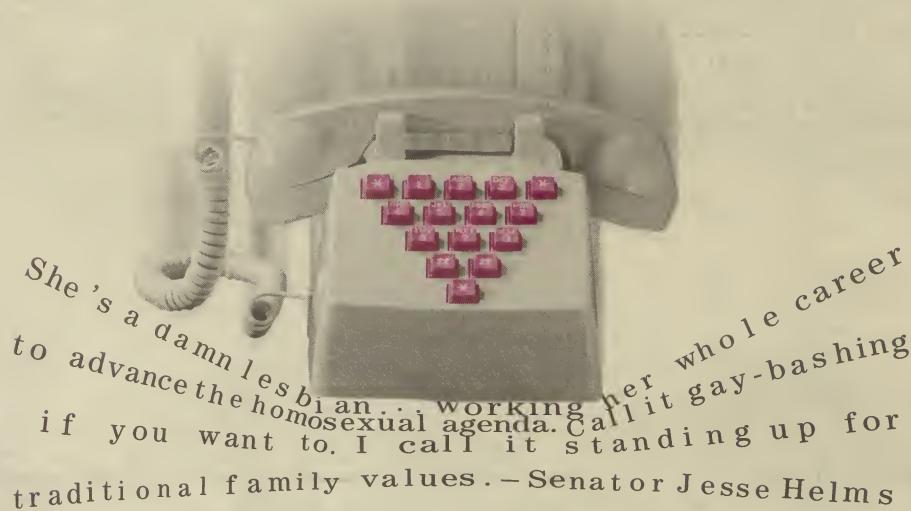
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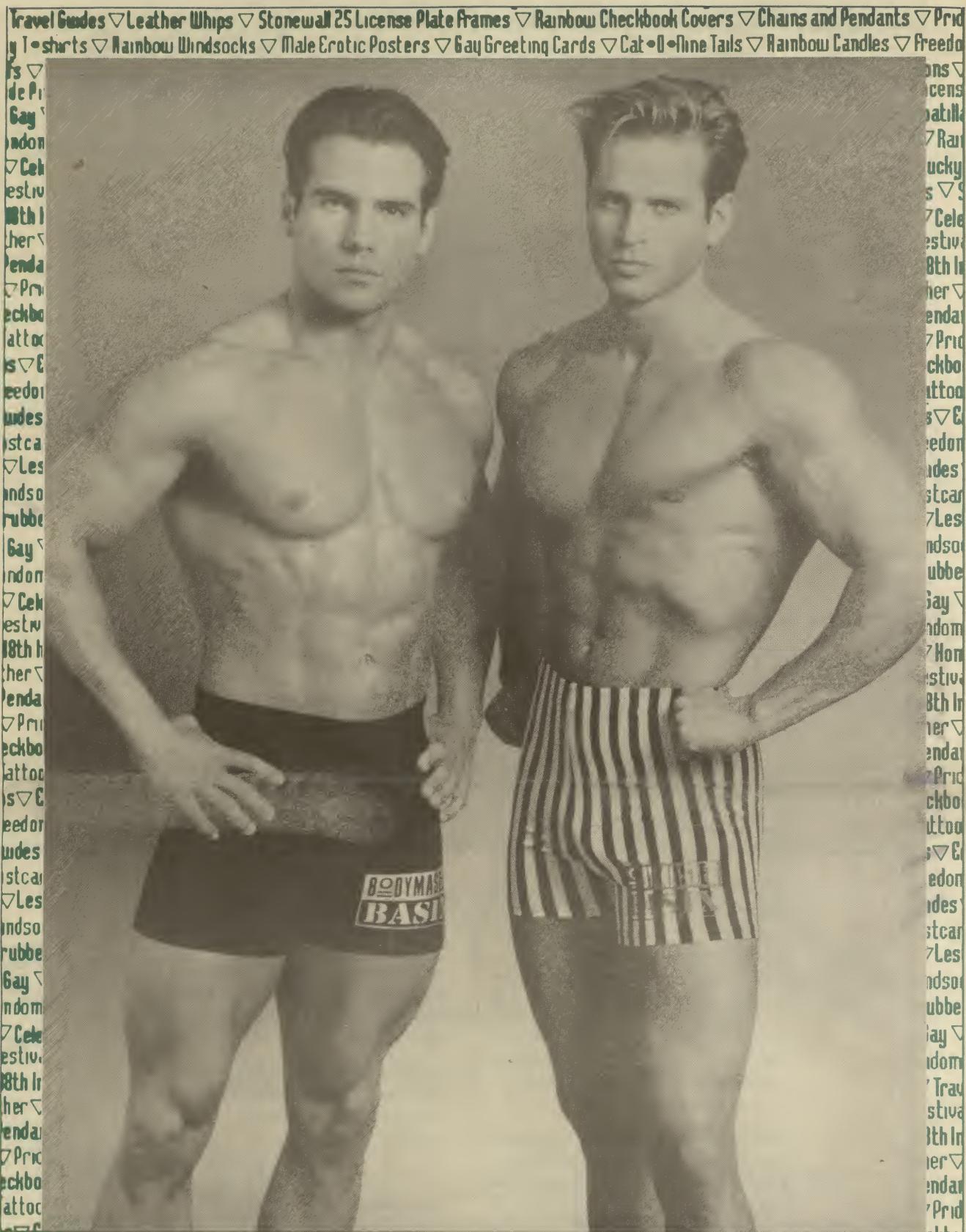
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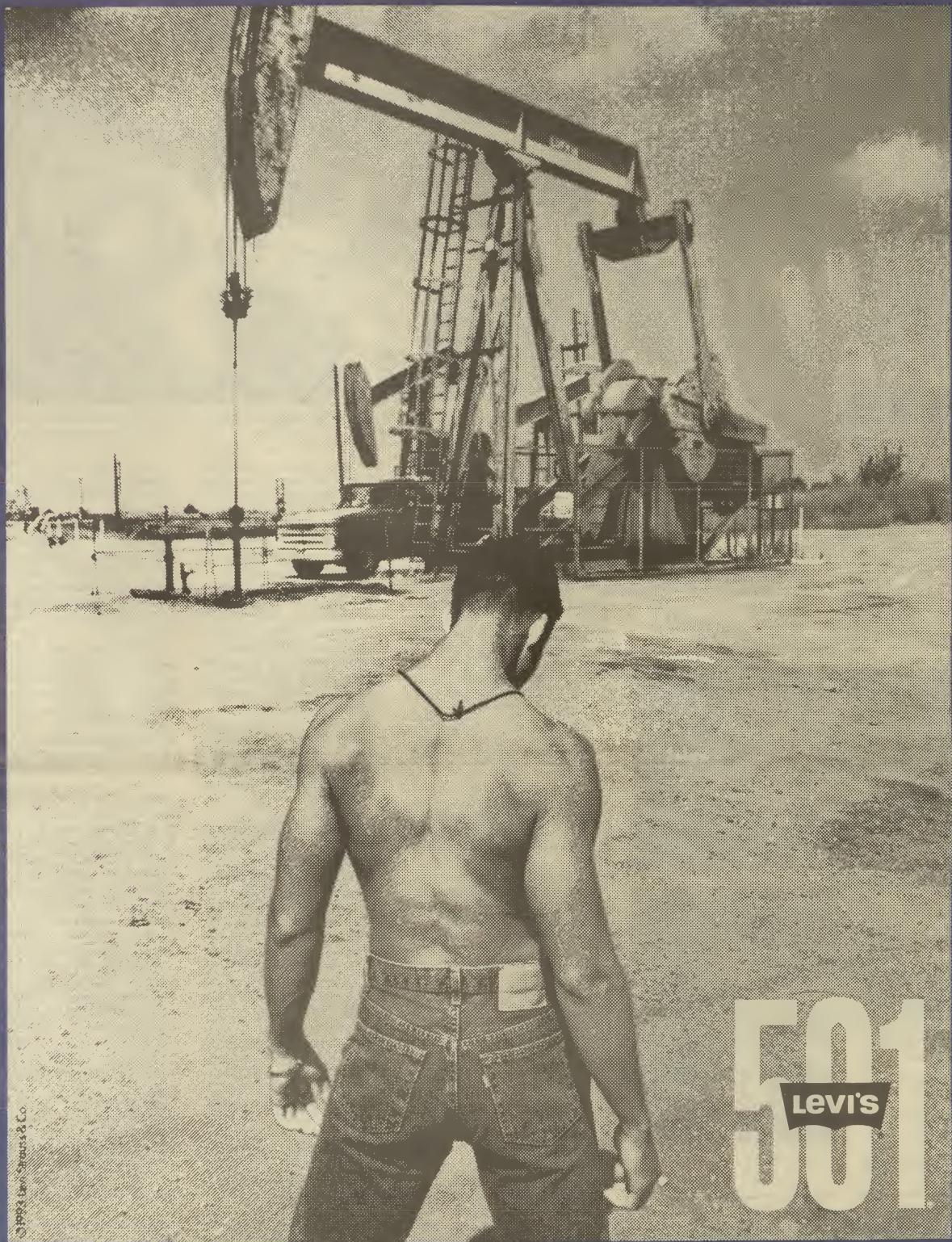


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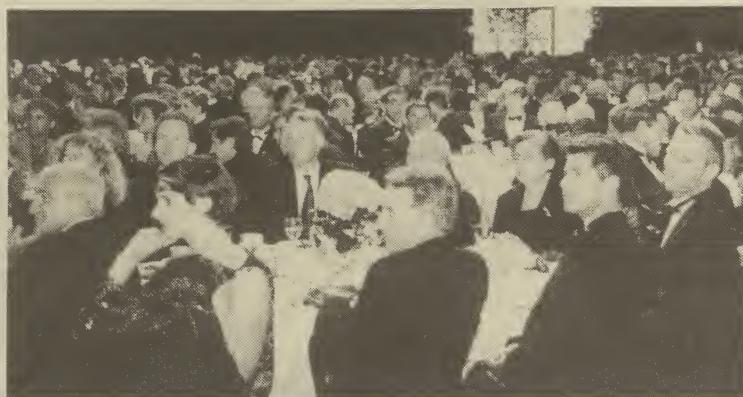
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## National News

Has the Human Rights Campaign Fund Lost Its Vision?

# HRCF: Troubled Giant



The HRCF "History in the Making" dinner held last Saturday at Fort Mason was a sold-out success, with over 1,700 in attendance.

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by Bob Roehr

The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) has effectively given the ax to its spokesman for the last five years, communications director Gregory King. While King was not fired directly, he was told June 1 that Douglas Hattaway, who began work that day, would assume the duties of spokesman for HRCF.

Hattaway was hired to do media work as part of the team working on state and local ballot initiatives. All of those positions are full-time, but temporary ones with HRCF, due to expire at the end of this year.

He reports to the director of public policy, Daniel Zingale, not the director of communication, King. Hattaway admitted this arrangement was "unusual."

"In speaking with Gregory, he is happy that we have somebody that can devote full-time to the media, because with all of the things that he had to do, he didn't feel that it was getting the attention it deserved," said Hattaway.

Officially, King played the consummate professional and loyalist to HRCF, supporting the move. But friends described him as both "surprised" and "distraught" by it. The action came a few days before King left on a scheduled two-week vacation.

HRCF executive director Tim McFeeley was traveling and unavailable for comment as to the reasons behind the change. A message left with his office was returned by King, at McFeeley's request.

This move is not isolated, but one in a series which gives rise to the questions: Is the nation's largest gay and lesbian political organization up to the challenges of representing the community? Does it have the vision, strategy, organization, and leadership to win those very major battles the community faces?

### Personnel decisions affect operations

Inexpert personnel decisions over the last 18 months have had a strongly negative impact upon the effectiveness of HRCF in crucial program areas.

**Politics:** Director of public policy is the heart of HRCF's operations. The chief lobbyist

and coordinator of those activities, Joe Grabarz, resigned that position shortly after Clinton took office, essentially in disagreement with McFeeley over strategy, tactics and resources. He had been on the job only nine months.

The position lay vacant for virtually the whole of the disastrous fight over gays in the military before Daniel Zingale filled it in the summer of 1993. Zingale had worked as a lobbyist on state issues in California, but never in Washington or on national issues.

**Health:** This spring, as discussion of health reform narrowed from the general to specific language in legislation on the Hill, HRCF responded by gutting their health policy operations.

Terry Beswick, their specialist on AIDS issues for the last three years, had been loaned to AIDS czar Kristine Gebbie in December with anticipation that she would hire him. That agreement was scheduled to expire at the end of March, but McFeeley agreed to Gebbie's request for an extension to June first. She felt she could find the funding to keep Beswick on her staff by that date.

That has not yet proven to be the case and "Time is working to extend his (Beswick's) stay," said Hattaway. Only McFeeley could offer more details, and he was unavailable.

HRCF has been picking up Beswick's salary and benefits for the last six months while not having direct use of his services.

HRCF's two other health positions were eliminated in early March, wiping out that section. Two-year employee Marci Wasserman was told she was being laid off "just after I had coordinated a landmark lesbian health conference" in Washington.

McFeeley said at the time the two positions were being consolidated into "a much higher level analytical and experienced person, who understands the intricacies of our present health care system and can hit the ground running." He wanted to hire that person "as soon after April first as possible."

Wasserman didn't think the move made any sense because, "anyone of any caliber was already taken," committed to the advanced preparations of

other organizations. Her assessment seems to ring true. The senior health positions is still vacant.

"It is fairly early in the (hiring) process," explained Hattaway in June. "Daniel really wants to take the time to make sure we get just the right person for it." They are going to fill it "as soon as it the person comes along."

At least one seemingly well-qualified applicant said he has never been interviewed or even contacted about the position, despite having submitted his resume in March and making a follow-up inquiry.

Meanwhile on Capitol Hill, drafting legislation for health care reform is at its peak in the legislative cycle. Wasserman cited the Kassebaum Amendment, a failed attempt in the Senate to strip protection for lesbians and gays from that legislation. "If somebody had been working that committee like it should have been, the amendment fight should never have come up."

AIDS funding for fiscal year 1995 also faces critical votes this month in the House. A coalition of groups is fighting to increase federal funding for AIDS prevention, services, and a cure. HRCF's old health policy team is gone, its successor yet to see implementation.

**Fund raising:** The chief fund-raising position, director of development, is vacant. A decision has been made on a replacement but the individual will not be on board for "a couple of weeks," Hattaway said.

Last summer HRCF membership stood at about 80,000, McFeeley was predicting passing 100,000, possibly by the end of 1993, with a goal of a million within five years.

Their current operating budget was prepared with anticipated growth in both members and revenue. But anecdotal evidence does not sustain those rosy projections. Newspaper accounts, most recently from Atlanta, indicate a dip in both attendance and income from their dinners, a major source of revenue.

And their membership figures, another principle source of income, still stands at 80,000 according to their most recent literature.

Surely turnovers and vacan-

(Continued on next page)

### HRCF

(Continued from previous page) cies in the development office have negatively affected its performance and the bottom line of money raised.

Has that had an impact on other operations? Are budgetary considerations behind personnel moves such as eliminating the health policy slots and leaving the successor position vacant? HRCF says no.

**Inexperience:** Virtually all senior level positions except McFeeley's (assuming the likely, imminent departure of King) are now either vacant or are staffed by people with a year or less experience in that office or often even in Washington.

The new people may in fact be highly qualified, but they often, and rightly, claim ignorance of developments prior to their employment. They lack detailed knowledge of how and why issues evolved within and between the lesbian and gay community, allies, and politicians, prior to their short tenures.

New senior level hires, Zingale and attorney David Sobelsohn, while having impressive resumes in their respective fields, have never worked in Washington. They do not have a network of contacts or as detailed an understanding of the often personal nuances of Capitol Hill, a background which takes years to acquire.

In the "business" of politics, where personal contacts are often the oil which makes things work, it is troubling to see a team rich in Washington experience succeeded by one with very shallow roots in that environment.

#### Dependencies

**Consultants:** Concurrent with these staff developments has been an increased use of outside consultants. McFeeley "guesses" they will spend about \$600,000 this year on hired guns. That sum is larger than the total budgets of all but a handful of lesbian and gay national organizations.

Former public policy director Grabarz added another perspective when he said that only about a dozen people on the HRCF staff of 40 work in "direct services" (the rest are in fund-raising and administrative support, the largest piece of HRCF's eight-million-dollar budget). "If you take the budget that those twelve employees are working with, you are talking about no more than \$250,000."

#### Who gets the money?

Who gets the bulk of that half-million plus? Pollster Celinda Lake, political consultant Ann Lewis, media advisor Mark Steitz, and the lobbying firm Johnson and Associates. All are staunch liberal Democrats.

"I think it is very important to try to talk to more conservative or moderate people," said McFeeley. "We limit ourselves by talking to the same old crowd." But he also claims he doesn't have the money to talk to anyone else.

**The hill:** "They spend far too much time on their friends and not enough on the people in the middle," says Jeff Coudriet, president of the local Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance and a long-time congressional staffer. He sees it as a problem common to most

"progressive" organizations.

Grabarz goes beyond that. He says that while he was at HRCF, the federal legislative agenda was "held hostage" by two gate keepers, Barney Frank (D-MA) in the House and Michael Iskowitz, a gay staff member for Ted Kennedy (D-MA) in the Senate.

"They answer the phone for Barney, that's what they do," said Grabarz. "I wasn't working for the Human Rights Campaign Fund. Before I did anything, I had to have three or four people sign off, who didn't even pay me."

Grabarz could never understand why the organization didn't ask more of its friends. He advocated "forcing our defenders and our friends to do things for us. To step onto that side of the line and be advocates instead of sponsors. And that is what we have, we have supporters, not advocates."

Barney does not claim, nor frankly does he want to be the spokesperson for the gay community on Capitol Hill," says Hillary Rosen, HRCF board co-chair, in artfully dancing around the issue of gatekeepers. "But he is a very well-respected member of Congress on a number of issues. When he speaks, it carries enormous weight." She maintains that strategic decisions have shaped how HRCF has moved its agenda.

McFeeley argues that, "As gay people, we have been excluded for a long time and so we try to create safety zones for ourselves by talking to people and associating with people ... who are not going to confront us and be mean to us. And the same thing is true in Congress." He says the community has to overcome that, "not just at the lobbying level, but also at the community level."

**Ideology:** Breaking out of the small circle of friends will probably have to start with the hiring practices of HRCF itself. The ideological perspective of those working for all of the national political organizations is dominated by one is tempted to say exclusionary to, the liberal left.

These staffing patterns, in turn, refract the way political opportunities are perceived, issues framed, language employed, and contacts developed. At HRCF, those patterns are dominated by a rather small, strongly left of center segment of the political spectrum. It is not the broad, diverse base necessary to attract and cultivate a majority of votes in Congress.

It is reflected most dramatically in HRCF's PAC contributions. More than 90% of the money goes to Democrats. It belies their claims to diversity and bipartisanship.

Last year HRCF trumpeted the fact that staff member Mandy Carter received the "War Resisters League's 1993 Peace Award." Their chief political consultant, Ann Lewis, is a former head of the liberal group Americans for Democratic Action, co-chair of Jesse Jackson's 1988 presidential bid, and Barney Frank's sister. They are bright people with impressive experience and make a valuable part of the team.

What HRCF lacks is balance to that perspective. None of HRCF's registered lobbyists are Republican, none a conservative Democrat. McFeeley doesn't feel that it is necessary to be effective. It is an odd

stance to take in a town where all of the name lobbying firms are studies in symmetry — high-powered Democratic and Republican operatives in alliance for big bucks.

Few issues are decided along straight party lines. One needs to garner support from both sides of the aisle in order to pass legislation. That is particularly true with controversial subjects. And none is more controversial than gay and lesbian rights. ▼

Next week, HRCF's role in the military issue, the gay and lesbian civil rights bill and ballot initiatives are examined.



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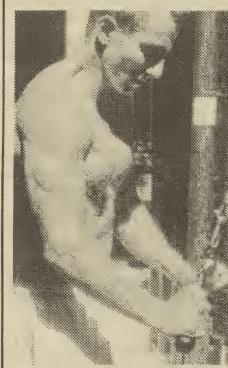
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## National News

# Cammermeyer to be Reinstated

United Press International

SEATTLE - A federal judge last week ordered the Washington State National Guard to reinstate a colonel who was ordered discharged in 1992 after she admitted she is a lesbian during a security clearance interview.

District Court Judge Thomas Zilly ruled the dismissal had violated Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer's Fifth Amendment rights to equal protection under the law.

"The government has discriminated against Col. Cammermeyer solely on the basis of her status as a homosexual and has failed to demonstrate a rational basis for doing so," the judge wrote.

Cammermeyer, a nurse who served 27 years in the military including a decorated tour of duty in Vietnam, said



Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer.

she felt the ruling was a victory for homosexual rights.

"It (her discharge) involved the same kind of regulation and same statements that were made when blacks and women were not allowed in the military," she said. "This is obviously a day long in coming, not just for me and the attorneys that worked

with me throughout this process, but also for the other homosexuals who have been discharged from the military against their will."

National Guard Lt. Col. Donna Hubbard said her agency had yet to see the ruling so it could not comment.

Cammermeyer, 52, served as chief nurse of the Washington National Guard and was one of the highest ranking officers ever discharged from the service because of her sexual orientation.

She revealed she was a lesbian when asked her sexual orientation during a security interview in 1989 while seeking admission to the prestigious War College. It took two years for the military to hold a hearing on the case. She was ordered honorably discharged in May 1992. ▼

## Do Tell: Navy Agrees To Stop Discriminating - Well, Against Some

by Kimberly Griffin

The U.S. Navy announced last month that discrimination would not be tolerated against its civilian employees in a number of categories, including sexual orientation.

Navy Secretary John H. Dalton's statement marks the first time a Department of Defense-supervised armed service has listed sexual orientation discrimination along with other banned forms of bias. The U.S. Coast Guard, which issued a similar non-discrimination policy in April, is supervised in peacetime by Transportation Secretary Federico Peña, who had directed his agencies to include sexual orientation.

In the May 23 statement issued to Navy employees, Dalton wrote, "Each civilian employee of the Department of Navy is an essential member of a team supporting our national defense mission."

Each employee and applicant should be afforded equal opportunity without regard to "race, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age or disability," Dalton continued.

The policy applies only to the Navy's 252,000 civilian employees, while the 483,000 uniformed personnel will still be subject to the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gay and lesbian service members.

When questioned about

the difference between civilian and uniformed personnel, a Navy spokesperson said, "The Navy, as well as all the services, adheres to the administration's 'Don't ask, don't tell' policy. The policies governing military personnel are different from those applicable to civilians."

"This follows," the spokesperson continued, "from the fact that military service is vastly different from civilian employment. Military personnel may be assigned involuntarily anywhere in the world and cannot leave the service whenever they wish. Unlike civilians, they often live in close quarters - their ship or barracks can be their home. Different policies are needed because of the difference between military service and civilian employment."

### An accurate reflection?

The addition of sexual orientation to the non-discrimination policy for civilians, according to the spokesman, was made to "accurately reflect" the position the Navy has held for a number of years.

Evan Wolfson, senior staff attorney at Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which is litigating numerous cases against the Department of Defense's policy, said the Navy's diversity statement was significant, particularly because it frames anti-gay discrimination as a civil rights is-

sue. In defending the military ban in court, the government has frequently relied on a set of arguments centering around the claim that it is not a civil rights issue.

"All they're left with now," Wolfson said, "is that there's something different about uniformed service."

That line of reasoning, which includes the claim that gays and lesbians serving openly will adversely affect unit cohesion, has not persuaded many - if any - judges in the litigation to date.

In the most recent decision handed down in a challenge of the ban, a judge in Seattle ruled that the Department of Defense had not offered any compelling reason for its discrimination against gay and lesbian service members other than prejudice. The judge ordered the reinstatement of highly decorated Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer to her former position as head nurse of the Washington National Guard. *[See accompanying story.]*

Wolfson said the Navy's new non-discrimination policy marks an important first step to admitting that there is no justification for allowing anti-gay bias among its uniformed personnel.

"They've admitted that prejudice in the office can be addressed," Wolfson said. "Now we need them to focus on claims based on presumed prejudice in the barracks." ▼

## Fundies Take Texas GOP

United Press International

FORT WORTH, Texas Religious conservatives officially took control of the Republican Party of Texas Saturday when Dallas lawyer Tom Pauken won the chairmanship after another favorite of the Christian right conceded.

Pauken, a former Reagan administration aide, won the party gavel after Rep. Joe Barton dropped his bid to replace longtime party chair Fred Meyer.

"Barton pulled out and

conceded the race to Pauken," said Fawn Banfield, state GOP press assistant. "From what I understand, he (Barton) didn't feel he was getting enough nominations."

Both men were acceptable to Christian conservative groups in the party because of their staunch opposition to abortion rights, homosexuality and state regulation of schools.

Barton, a six-term congressman from Ennis, lost his bid for the chairmanship despite support from Texas Sens. Phil Gramm and Kay

Bailey Hutchison, as well as the retiring Meyer, whose ouster was orchestrated by the conservatives.

The only other candidate, Dolly Madison McKenna, is a moderate who was booted during her speech to delegates Friday when she said "the Republican party is not a church."

Moderate Republicans, whose conservatism is limited to fiscal issues, have recently felt they are being squeezed out of their party by the rapidly growing Christian conservative faction. ▼

# Gay Protection Survives First Hurdle in Health Care Reform

by Bob Roehr

One of the key issues in health care reform for lesbians and gays is to insure strong provisions of non-discrimination that explicitly include sexual orientation.

Those protections were still in a version of President Clinton's approach to health care reform when it passed a major milestone on June 9 by being reported out of its first full committee. That committee is Education and Labor in the Senate chaired by Ted Kennedy (D-MA). It is considered the committee of jurisdiction most sympathetic to the Clinton approach and to interests of lesbians and gays. A loss here would have been devastating to both.

Kansas Republican Nancy Kassebaum led an effort in Kennedy's committee to eliminate that language, but her amendment was defeated on June 7 by a vote of 11-6. The vote was largely along partisan lines, with only Jim Jeffords (R-VT) joining the Democratic majority. That same vote later reported out the full bill from committee.

Gay and lesbian political leaders, in a rare show of unanimity across the board, had called upon the community to contact Senators on that committee and urge them to support retention of current non-discriminatory language in the draft of the bill.

"Kassebaum's amendment is mean-spirited at its core," said Peri Jude Radecic, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). "It is endorsing discrimination against gay people, poor people, those who are currently sick, or those who may become sick."

The Senator's office justified her position by stating that "sexual orientation is a civil rights issue, not a health care matter" and should therefore be excluded.

"They don't want to add any new status (such as existing ones of race or national origin)," said NGLTF's legislative director Tanya Domi. "Well, if you are doing health care reform, it is the perfect place to add new status (classifications)."

Domi criticized Kassebaum's attempts to eliminate compensatory and punitive damages for intentional dis-

crimination. She cited the example of the 1968 Fair Housing Act where those remedies were not included in the original Act and had to be added in 1988 to strengthen enforcement.

**Kassebaum: Victim of a cave-in?**

crimination. She cited the example of the 1968 Fair Housing Act where those remedies were not included in the original Act and had to be added in 1988 to strengthen enforcement.

#### Kassebaum: out of order?

The amending effort seemed out of character for Kassebaum, who is usually viewed as moderate, accommodating, and reasonable. "She is caving in to the Radical Right's special agenda to institutionalize anti-gay discrimination," said Daniel Zingale, director of public policy at the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF).

"I think a calculated decision was made that she would make a better stalking horse for discrimination than the usual suspects. We were all surprised by it," he said.

Log Cabin Republicans, the lobbying arm of gay Republicans, joined with HRCF and NGLTF in trying to generate grass roots constituent phone calls. A publicly posted e-mail advisory to its supporters read, "If the exclusion passes, YOU may be denied emergency care, or turned out of a doctor's office, or red-lined from a dentist's practice because you are gay, or they suspect you are gay (like, if you're unmarried)."

It urged supporters to contact three key Senators on the committee, David Durenberger (R-MN), Orrin Hatch (R-

UT), and Jim Jeffords (R-VT).

"Because this is the first time that Kassebaum has taken the lead on an anti-gay measure, we want to make it uncomfortable for her back in Kansas," said Zingale.

The strategy seems to have worked. While Kassebaum did not withdraw her amendment or change her vote, Domi reported that at the committee meeting on June 7, "She wasn't very high profile about it, she just kept saying over again, 'I don't think this is appropriate.'"

"It is an important victory, and it's especially important that both sexual orientation and health status were retained," said Marj Plumb, health policy director at NGLTF.

The legislation must still pass the Senate Finance Committee and the full Senate, in addition to going through votes in committees and on the floor of the House of Representatives. Those venues are often less friendly. There are likely to be other attempts to strike language which includes protection for lesbians and gays. Prognosis is uncertain. ▼

## More Catholic Criminals Caught

WORCESTER, Mass. - A Catholic priest was ordered held on \$50,000 cash bail in Massachusetts Thursday, June 9, on charges of sexually assaulting three teenage boys before he fled to Canada 20 years ago.

The Rev. Joseph Fredette, who was arrested by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in January, was returned to Boston from Moncton, New Brunswick, Wednesday night and turned over to Worcester police.

He pleaded innocent in Superior Court to one count of sexual assault and six counts of committing unnatural acts against the three youths while he served as executive director of a group he founded to help juvenile delinquents. A judge set a pretrial hearing for July 11.

Fredette, 61, fled the country in 1974 as police were about to arrest him. He was indicted by a Worcester County grand jury in 1992 after being tracked down by a private detective.

Massachusetts has a six-year statute of limitations on child sex charges, but the limit is frozen if a suspect flees the state before it expires.

Fredette is one of nearly a dozen Catholic priests from Massachusetts who have been accused of sexual abuse in the past several years. The worst offender, the Rev. James Porter, pleaded guilty earlier this year to assaulting more than 30 youngsters while he served as a priest in three parishes in southeastern Massachusetts in the 1960s and early '70s.

Porter, who left the priesthood in 1974 and moved to Minnesota, is currently serving a lengthy prison term. ▼

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## National News

# Stonewallternatives: Pick a March, Any March!

by Jim Provenzano

The tension mounts in New York, with parade routes being argued over as part of the last minute preparations for the massive Stonewall 25 March, which will coincide with the closing of Gay Games IV. It promises to be the largest collection of empowered lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders since the March on Washington.

But some New Yorkers have expressed discord with the proceedings, especially with the committee's bowing to pressure from the mayor's office to not allow their proposed parade route.

"There ain't gonna be no Fifth Avenue, that's for sure," said New York activist and rabble-rouser Bill Dobbs in a telephone interview.

He spoke of the general confusion felt by many New Yorkers, who seem as confused by the array of activities, revisions, and cancellations for Stonewall 25 as tourists anticipating the event. As of press time, committee organizers for the twenty-fifth anniversary march of the Stonewall riots were still attempting negotiations with conservative New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's aides, who seem to enjoy playing games with a million homos.

"The city has been insistent, saying 'you cannot have Fifth Avenue,'" said Dobbs.

But like many other New Yorkers familiar with demonstrations, he didn't seem fazed. After all, you don't need a board of directors to take over a city.

Stonewall 25 Committee Member Pat Norman has been strong in her statements,

mous Wigstock.

This herd of fabulism on a rampage will trek across town to Sheridan Square (hopefully not on 8th Street). All those shoe stores are distracting to a clothes horse!)

**Saturday, June 25**

Flames will fly at the Dyke March on Saturday at 5pm, going from Bryant Park (42nd St. & 6th Ave.) down Fifth Avenue to Washington Square Park to the West Village, where the contingent of possibly 20,000 lesbians will converge on a street fair taking place down there. Hopefully, it won't be the usual souvlaki fest of fried meats on-a-stick, since the march will be entirely composed of hungry, mostly vegetarian women.

For those who haven't experienced a Dyke March, it's usually lit by torches, and men cannot march, but are welcome to watch and cheer from the sidewalks. Call Lesbian Avengers at (212) 967-7711, ext. 3204.

Also on Saturday night at 10 pm is a march that a group called Stonewall Now is organizing. The focus of this group is to reflect the current riotous feelings, and reflect, in a less assimilative way, the true energy of Stonewall. They'll meet in Sheridan Square. "They will not be allowing themselves to be pushed around by authorities," said one source. They have no permit, nor do they care to debate with the mayor's office to obtain one.

**Sunday, June 26**

Sunday is the day for the officially approved Stonewall 25 march route, from 1st Ave around 42nd. Some staging areas in 30th Street will have speakers and observation benches. The official parade will go up north on 1st Avenue to 57th Street, then cross over to Sixth Avenue.

Half of the march will supposedly split off and go into Central Park on one side, while the other half will enter around the other side.

This all leads to the massive rally in the park, where no doubt all the bigwig supposed leaders of our community will spout on and on about the need for civil rights, all the while being the same

(Continued on next page)

## Dykeotomy

(Continued from page 10)

you ask me. And when I see the list of sponsors of DramaDIVAS, I am reminded that programs cannot run on spirit alone.

Financial backers of the program include Brava! For Women in the Arts; the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth & their Families; the San Francisco Art Commission; the California Arts Council "Artists-in-Communities" Program; the NEA Expansion Arts "Arts in Education" Program; the HAAS Foundation; and the San Francisco Foundation.

And to think, this was going to be the week I wrote my Father's Day tribute to Dad. I suppose I would have

said a lot of the same things Yvette Gomez had to say about Cherrie Moraga—about a priceless friendship, about letting me go my own way, about always being there when I needed a push or another point of view.

The beauty of a mentor is that, like heroes and role models, you can choose your own. Nobody gets to choose their parents. So, Happy Father's Day, Dad. You're my dad by birth, but my mentor by choice. ▼

*Author's note: For more about the LYFE Mentoring Program, call 565-7681. To Be Young, Gifted & Queer plays June 16, 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Brava! Studio Theatre (2180 Bryant St. at 20th). For more info, call 641-7684.*



(Illustration: Angela Bocage)

(Continued from previous page) people who bowed down to Giuliani in their request for Fifth Avenue.

And, as we reported in the B.A.R. last week, many famous gay-friendly celebrities such as Madonna and Liza Minnelli have been officially banned by Giuliani's Ghouls. There will be other entertainment worthy of sitting in the sun all day. For more Stonewall info, call (212) 626-6925.

To counter this, and provide a funky downtown alternative, and to remind the march attendees about AIDS, ACT UP New York will host a noisy downtown departure from Sheridan Square at 10am. They have vowed to go uptown, meet up with the official Stonewall march at a point yet to be divulged, and go into Central Park.

At a June 8 press conference, Stonewall reps brought in ACT UP to officially distance themselves from ACT UP's tactics, but acknowledge their actions.

Joe Conforti of ACT UP New York said that "Stonewall 25 has been stonewalled by the Giuliani administration into taking a route that basically renders the lesbian and gay community invisible, marching on First Avenue and directly into the park. It is undoubtedly the homophobia of the administration, and the archdiocese" that are responsible.

Conforti is pleased with Stonewall 25's acceptance of alternative marches, even if it is after their rejection by the mayor. "They have welcomed alternative marches," Conforti said. "They didn't ask us not to do it, but they wanted everyone to work together."

Because of the grand scale of their march, the AIDS activist group is hoping all ACT UPs around the country will volunteer to be marshalls. For information on trainings and a pre-action event, call, (212) 633-6762.

For out-of-towners fearing a police clubbing, take precautions. However, with a history of spontaneous marches, and a sometimes compliant police department (at least under Dinkins' administration), there should be a general air of peaceable *carte blanche* in the streets. Some activists may choose to deliberately do civil disobedience, but most will opt out to enjoy the weekend. After all, why spend politically honorable time in jail when Babs is crooning in Yankee Stadium!

Other groups also feel that downtown is the place to be, such as Spirit of Stonewall. The celebrity list heading their march includes Harry Hay, Pat Califia, Sarah Shulman, Camille Paglia, and Allen Ginsberg. While not all advocates of NAMBLA, the beleaguered group which ad-

vocates the sexual rights of underage youth, members of the group are marching to show their outrage over Stonewall 25's exclusion of NAMBLA. Spirit of Stonewall plans on marching from Sheridan Square and will join ACT UP. To join them, call (212) 631-5824.

Back when Fifth Avenue seemed a possible route, Dignity, the national group of gay and lesbian Catholics, was poised to erect a cross across the street from St. Patrick's Cathedral, the house of homophobic bigot Cardinal O'Connor.

But Rudy Giuliani is a good little altar boy, and Dignity was told no, they could-

n't go anywhere near the church. Could O'Connor have been instrumental in denying access to Fifth Avenue to protect his precious pews?

Despite such interference, and problems, Stonewall 25's marches, whether to or from the UN or Sheridan Square, should basically shut down all traffic for the entire weekend. And why not? Presidents do it. Why not an entire queer nation? Prepare for a riot of a party on a large scale.

"The city has said they're gonna stop it," Dobbs said of the municipal response to the alternative marches. "Well, our response has been, if you have enough cops to stop us, then try." ▼

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## California News

### News Briefs United Press International

## Bill to Regulate Body Piercings Passes

SACRAMENTO - With body piercing and tattooing finding increased popularity among teenagers, the California Assembly approved a measure Thursday that would impose new regulations on the small businesses.

Assemblywoman Valerie Brown, D-Sonoma, displayed photographs of bodies infected and scarred by poor tattoo artists and body piercers to support her call for new standards.

Brown said a lack of state standards for the burgeoning industry posed a danger to youngsters caught up in the fad who don't know how to distinguish legitimate body pierce shops from shoddy operations.

"We are exposing young people to the possibility of infection and quite frankly as parents we have a need to intervene," said Brown, who cited incidents of hepatitis B and tuberculosis transmission due to unsterilized tattoo and body piercing needles.

While there are no documented cases, Brown said the use of needles could also spread the HIV virus.

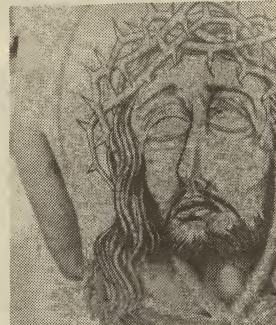
The measure would require the Department of Health Services to establish new health and safety standards for the body piercing and tattoo industries. State officials would also conduct random inspections.

Such shops would be required to register with local health agencies and pay a fee to fund the new program. Those that refused to register could face a \$500 fine.

Brown managed to garner support from the industry for the restrictions, but the measure was opposed by some lawmakers who rejected any government oversight of the industry.

"This is ridiculous," said Assemblyman Dean Andal, R-Stockton. "We ought to start remembering that our business community in this state is overwhelmed with regulations."

The measure was sent to the Senate on a vote of 43-31. ▼



(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

## Screening Study to Identify Qualified HIV+ Participants for a Gene Therapy Trial

Viagene, Inc. is conducting a screening study to evaluate and identify 40 qualified HIV-infected individuals for a separate Gene Therapy treatment study.

The gene therapy trial is a "cutting edge" therapy that uses an immunotherapeutic vector [HIV-IT(V)] as a vehicle for carrying new genetic information into the cells in the body. Once in the body, these genes can trigger a series of steps to boost the immune system to better control HIV infection.

Viagene's viral vector, [HIV-IT(V)], is a disabled piece of a mouse virus designed to carry a specific HIV gene into healthy cells of study participants. This mouse virus particle will not leave the cell or infect other cells. The new HIV vector is designed to direct the host cells to produce HIV protein complexes that the cell would normally not produce. These new protein complexes resemble a portion of HIV on the surface of the host cell and serve as a signal to trigger an immune response through CD8 cytotoxic T-cells (CTL) activation. These CD8 killer cells can recognize and then kill not only the host cells expressing the new proteins but also other cells already infected with HIV. Thus, the object of the therapy is to reduce the total level of HIV-infected cells in the body.

This screening study will evaluate and identify qualified candidates for the upcoming treatment study. To qualify for the screening study, volunteers must have CD4 counts of 350 or greater and CD4 percent of 18% or greater. On subsequent testing, Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) type -- a genetic marker on white blood cells indicating inherited immune characteristics -- and Cytotoxic T-cell (CTL) activity will further determine eligibility for the proposed treatment study. The screening process will take place in four or more successive visits including blood draws over 10 weeks.

If you are interested in this exciting new trial and would like further information, please feel free to contact ViRx at (415) 474-2233. All inquiries are confidential.



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# Congress To Hold Hearings on Anti-Gay Employment Discrimination

by Bob Roehr

The first hearing on federal efforts to ban discrimination in employment against gays and lesbians will be held July 20 in New York City. The hearing is being called by Representative Major R. Owens (D-NY), chairman of the House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil Rights.

It will be held at the Main Building of New York University at 100 Washington Square East. The location is just a few blocks from the Stonewall Inn, where rioting 25 years ago marked the beginning of the contemporary lesbian and gay struggle for equality.

Braden Goetz, chief counsel for the subcommittee, said that a reorganization last year expanded its jurisdiction to include employment discrimination. Since that time Owens has been aggressive in pushing to chart a course to complete what he calls "the

unfinished agenda" of the civil rights struggle.

Constituents in Major's predominately African-American district had also urged the Congressman to take a leadership role in this fight.

They saw the radical right "try and make the case that civil rights are somehow divisible, that the interests of gay men and lesbians are somehow opposed to African Americans," said Goetz. "One of our agendas of this hearing is to make it clear that our interests are the same. It is not us against them."

The employment bill, backed by openly gay Reps Barney Frank (D-MA) and Gerry Studds (D-MA) in the House, and Ted Kennedy (D-MA) in the Senate, is undergoing final revision and should be formally introduced within the next few days, certainly by the end of June.

Goetz said his subcommittee began planning the hearing in February when the form of proposed legislation

was less clear. He views their approach as "consistent" with the pending bill and has been in contact with Frank's office. "We are all on the same page."

He noted that the bill "would have to go through our subcommittee as well as [Don] Edwards's (D-CA) Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights."

Nine witnesses are scheduled to testify. They include individuals who have suffered employment discrimination for being lesbian or gay, as well as representatives of national organizations who will testify to broader patterns of discrimination.

Time constraints will limit testimony to the witnesses already scheduled. However, written testimony may be submitted for the record.

Copies should be sent to: Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil Rights, 518 Annex 1, Washington, DC 20515. ▼

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## Verdict in Landmark AIDS Discrimination Case

by Jonathan Jay Gibian (UPI)

TOLEDO — A Toledo U.S. District Court jury convicted Fremont Memorial Hospital and one of its physicians Tuesday of violating the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1984 by discriminating against an AIDS patient when refusing to admit him.

The six-man, two-woman, panel deliberated for a week before returning its 6-2 verdict in the civil case brought by the estate of the late John Chardon, of Portland, Maine. Chardon was refused admission to the hospital in 1992.

Lawyers for the Fremont hospital and Dr. Charles Hull, an admitting physician, argued unsuccessfully that Chardon was transferred to a Toledo hospital because of medical reasons and not because of discrimination.

The jury awarded Chardon's estate a total of \$62,000 in compensatory damages, as well as \$150,000 in punitive damages from Hull and \$300,000 in punitive damages from the hospital.

Although jury decisions in civil cases are usually unanimous, lawyers for both sides agreed to accept a 6-2 decision before the verdict was announced, Chris Link, executive director of the Ohio chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, said in Cleveland.

"Under the rules of civil procedure, the lawyers could have even agreed to accept any simple majority," Link said. "Apparently there was some indication the jury was stuck at a 6-2 verdict and the lawyers — not knowing in whose favor the majority had decided — cut a deal agreeing to accept the decision."

The case, filed by the ACLU on behalf of Chardon's estate, included charges dealing with the Americans with

"We...  
believe the  
jury's  
decision will  
be a positive  
influence."  
Chris Link,  
Ohio ACLU

Disabilities Act, the Federal Rehabilitation Act and another federal law prohibiting hospital dumping, Link said.

But when U.S. District Judge John Potter charged the jury last week, he removed the ADA decision from the jury's responsibility and said he would issue a written opinion whether the defendants had violated that federal law.

Link said the ACLU be-

lieves it had been the first time a case was filed in which a jury was asked to determine whether the Americans with Disabilities Act protected people with AIDS.

"But we can't help but believe the jury's decision will be a positive influence on the outcome of the judge's ADA decision," Link added.

The jury on Thursday declared itself at an impasse, but Potter ordered the panel to continue deliberations. Monday the jury requested a rereading of testimony given during the trial by Hull, in which he said he transferred Chardon in order to obtain the best possible treatment at a larger hospital.

Chardon died last year of complications from AIDS.

The federal act the hospital was determined to have violated prohibits discrimination based on handicap or disability. ▼

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## Obituaries

### Pristine Condition

June 17, 1949–May 23, 1994

Artist, performance artist and one of the major members of The Cockettes, Pristine Condition died at Midway Hospital in Los Angeles on May 23, 1994. Originally from Hereford, Texas, he was raised as Keith Blanton. He attended the University of Texas at Austin where he was an art major.

He moved to San Francisco in 1971, where in a short time he became a member of the Cockettes and appeared in such productions as *Tinsel Tarts in a Hot Coma*, *Pearls Over Shanghai*, *Hot Greeks and Journey to the Center of Uranus*. He appeared in the underground film classics *Elevator Girls in Bondage* and *Tricia's Wedding*.

When the Cockettes broke up, Condition went back to his art work in acrylics and collage. He moved to Los Angeles in 1981 and worked for 12 years at the National Research Group, a film industry telemarketing-research firm.

He is survived by his sister, Darlyn Adkins of Oxford, North Carolina, and a niece and nephew. Condition was cremated, and a memorial service was held at his home in West Hollywood on Saturday, May 28, 1994. In his memory, donations can be made to Project Angel Food, P.O. Box 69610, Los Angeles, CA 90069. ▼

### Richard Preston Gray

July 8, 1952–May 11, 1994

Visiting San Francisco as often as he could, which was helped by the fact he was a longtime employee of Eastern Airlines, Rip Gray could and did consider The City a second home. Rip was a man of constant energy; he did not and would not adjust to his body as it began to leave before he was ready.

A graduate of the University of Florida, Rip was the most handsome of the 1969 and 1970 Gator cheerleaders. He is missed by many, friends around the country, including Michael Pepe of Miami and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gray, of Lake Wylie, SC. A celebration of his life will be held on July 8 in Miami, Florida. ▼

### Richard Heinisch

May 10, 1920–June 7, 1994

A memorial and celebration of the life of Richard Heinisch will be held at his home, 2231 Alice St., Santa Cruz, on Saturday, June 18, from 2 to 6 p.m.

Richard died at home on June 7 from complications related to cancer of the pancreas. He is survived by his sister, Ruth Behrens, of Wisconsin, and his brother, Chuck Heinisch, of Washington.

Richard Heinisch was born and raised in Racine, Wisconsin. While attending the University of Wisconsin he enlisted in the Air Corp. Richard was sent to language school, where he studied classical Japanese and participated in the successful cracking of the Japanese code during WW II. Richard graduated from UC Berkeley in 1949, where he taught arriving foreign students. He lived in the International House at universities in Berkeley, New York, Washington D.C., and Paris, and led tours of Japan and treks around the world for an international student travel agency. This was followed by 15 years in the publishing industry.

Richard lived in San Francisco and Big Sur, where he built a sod-roof house

with the help of hitchhikers. He settled in Santa Cruz in 1974. Richard was a member of the Gray Panthers, ACLU, the People's Democratic Club, the Santa Cruz Action Network and Amnesty International. Until recently he was an avid swimmer at Harvey West Park. Richard is remembered for his appetite for life, his appreciation of diversity, his garden and the warmth of his loving relationships.

Contributions in Richard's memory to the American Civil Liberties Union would be appreciated. For information regarding Richard's memorial call (408) 724-6113. ▼

### Michael D. Johnson

March 31, 1962–May 14, 1994

After a long and courageous fight, Michael died peacefully in the arms of his lover, Will Colvin. Mike was born in Denver, but leaves loving friends in San Francisco, LA and Florida. Will and Mike fought hand-in-hand throughout his battle with AIDS. And although he was afraid, he was never alone. Will's strength and love gave Mike the courage to fight and then go on.

It was love at first sight for anyone who ever met Mike, and his passing leaves a void in many people's lives. His playfulness and love of life engulfed all those around him.

He was strong and charming, and wanted his friends to love life as much as he did. He had a passion for his work that was only superseded by his passion for fun.

We're gonna miss Saturday night parties, backflips on the beach, Russian River weekends, Folsom Street Fairs, Magic Mountain, "Boom-Boom Room" talks, and "Wieners"!

Mike, you are in our hearts forever, and life will never be the same! We love you, buddy! ▼

### Joseph Kavet

Jan. 10, 1963–May 26, 1994

Joe passed away after a brief AIDS-related illness. His father and mother were with him. He is survived by his loving family, boyfriend and many close friends. We will miss his big smile, jokes (funny and not-so-funny), sweetness, and easy and loving attitude toward life. We love you.

On July 16, we will plant a tree in the AIDS Memorial Grove in memory of Joe. Please send donations in Joe's name to the AIDS Memorial Grove, 856 Stanton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117; (415) 750-8340. ▼

### Richard Heinisch

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### Crayne Kam

May 11, 1950–June 4, 1994

Crayne Kam died peacefully June 4, 1994, of complications from AIDS, three weeks after this 44th birthday. He had been cared for at St. Francis Hospital for three months, and had spent six days at his home in San Francisco before making the transition for two years he had prepared to make.

Crayne fought valiantly as a front-line warrior against the AIDS pandemic, for himself and many others. All who knew him during his 24 years in San Francisco valued him as a gentle, witty, generous man whose kindness and beauty of body and soul were legendary. Many knew him also as a big brother, uncle, confidant and counselor.

Crayne spurred the growth of several organizations fighting AIDS and celebrating cultural identity. He trained volunteers at Rest Stop, a drop-in center for the HIV positive; worked on the board of the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) Community HIV Project; formed support groups for those living with AIDS; and spoke out in the public schools about the disease. Always he showed an incredible, gentle "Aloha" spirit toward persons facing death.

Crayne's passing is deeply mourned by his spouse, Paul Pedet Steinadl; mother, Elizabeth Kam Lau; five siblings (and their spouses), Crayton and Edwina Kam, Clayton and Leesa Kam, Cranston and Kimberly Kam, Ounita and Gary Wong, and Carlton Kam; and brother-in-law Stanley S. Nakamoto (sister Ouida died in 1992); "adopted" parents Rose McGrath, Leophis and J.B. Burroughs.

Friends and family will celebrate Crayne's life Sunday, July 10, at 3 p.m. at Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church (GGMCC), 1600 Clay St., San Francisco 94109; wear Aloha attire! Contributions in his memory may be made to the Crayne Kam AIDS Trust Fund, GGMCC (same address), or the GAPA Community HIV Project (1841 Market St., SF 94114). ▼

ing Home. He died peacefully in his sleep. He is survived by his mother, Velma; his brother, John; his nieces and nephews; and his friends. His ashes are to be scattered at sea and dug into a memorial garden created with plants that Larry had nurtured and cared for.

We, his family and friends, will remember him. We miss you, Larry. Rest in peace; you will always be in our hearts. ▼

### Don Killam

June 1, 1994

Don Killam, age 31, died at 12:30 a.m. on June 1, 1994, of an AIDS-related condition. He was an excellent carpenter, an accomplished pool player and a pretty good pianist.

After his arrival in San Francisco seven years ago, he became involved in the antique industry, and soon came to manage the San Rafael Auction Gallery. His professional manner and his expertise in the field of antiques and restoration earned him the respect of the other members of the Bay Area's antique trade. His presence helped to form another bridge between the lesbian/gay and heterosexual communities, and so now many more people must look at gays and AIDS in a new light. He also helped to found the Men of Creative Talents, a local performing group, with his lover, Michael Fugatt, who predeceased him, and Nova Lei.

Don used his skills as an auctioneer to raise many thousands of dollars for local AIDS organizations at fundraisers around the city. He was also a member of the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco. He is survived by his family of friends in the Bay Area, who feel his loss keenly. A memorial service is being planned for the near future. Please call the Lesbian/Gay Chorus office at 861-7067, and leave your name and phone number, along with a message requesting information about the memorial service. ▼

### Happy 24th Anniversary

June 14, 1994

I Miss You, Twila!

**Tom Panagiotaros**

12-05-42 to 5-27-99

He is survived by his family of friends in the Bay Area, who feel his loss keenly. A memorial service is being planned for the near future. Please call the Lesbian/Gay Chorus office at 861-7067, and leave your name and phone number, along with a message requesting information about the memorial service. ▼

## Obituaries

### Bill Somerlade

Dec. 20, 1948–June 13, 1994

There is only one word that describes the life and times of Bill Somerlade... fabulous! A generous loving giving person, Bill always lived life to its fullest. His gift to each of us, who were lucky enough to have known him, lives on in the memories we share. We love and miss you, Bill.

On June 13 at 3:30 p.m., Bill Somerlade passed on from liver failure due to hepatitis B. He is survived by his also "fabulous" sister and brother-in-law, Judy and Hal Moore; his parents, Wayne and Pauline Somerlade; his brother; nieces and nephews; and countless friends whose lives will never quite be the same without him.

Happy trails to you, Bill, until we meet again. Donations should be made to the Wendy Marx Diner Awareness Foundation. ▼

### Bruce Allen Priebe

Dec. 18, 1951–May 21, 1994

After living with extraordinary vitality and fullness in the face of AIDS, Bruce died at home in Oakland on the evening of May 21, 1994. Always in character, he died on his futon on the floor while the rest of us took turns lying on the hospital bed he refused to use.

Bruce was born in Braham, Minn., and raised on a farm in nearby Stacy. He left for the big city and got his BSN from the University of Minnesota. He became an amazingly versatile nurse who later worked at Visiting Nurses and Hospice. Being a nurse sustained Bruce through his many other careers – actor, singer, therapist, playwright, acupuncturist, and finally, after his AIDS diagnosis, comedian.

Bruce first spoke out as a person with HIV at UCLA in 1986. In 1987, he was arrested at the Supreme Court protest of the Hardwick decision, and returned the following year to be arrested at the

FDA. In 1993 Bruce was featured in a documentary entitled *Facing AIDS: Stories of Health Care Workers*.

Bruce is survived by many who loved him, including Andy Rose, his life partner for nearly 10 years; parents, Joyce and Marlyn Priebe; sisters, Kathy Lindberg and Kim Becker; brother, Brian Priebe; brother-in-law, Gilbert Becker; sisters-in-law, Jilly and Nancy Rose; six nephews; and Andy's daughter, Aarin Schlosberg.

Memorial services were held for Bruce in Oakland and in Stacy, Minn., with other circles of remembrance taking place in Baltimore, Los Angeles, Kew (NY) and possibly other cities. Contributions in Bruce's memory can be made to Project Inform or any other worthy organization. ▼

### James Joseph "Jason" Woerner

Aug. 2, 1950–May 17, 1994

Jason's big grin was barely able to match an attitude which seemed constant in his life, and consequently the life of his friends and many, many lovers. Born a Dallas, Texas boy, Jason made The City his own in 1973; meeting Tony Crown and saying in his slow drawl, "I need a job." So, in between football and shooting pool... work he did. From jobs as court reporter and PG&E rep to stunts where many yet remember his flaming red hair, off-red sense of humor and occasional flaming temper.

And cook! He would arrive at The Lone Antler Ranch in Placerville and, no matter who were in residence, take over the kitchen and the pantry. Many wonderful weekends, great dinners, friends yet here but too many gone... precious memories.

Jason is a much-loved brother, friend, ex-lover, lover and son to many... his mother, Libby; dad, Frank; brother, Paul; sister, Jean, all of Dallas; sister, Kathy in Boston; and longtime and caring friends, Grayson Olive and Keith Trummer, of Pierce Street. Many, many more were with him, or in spirit, when Jason decided to move on to where his attitude, grin and red hair will shine once again... and not ever be dimmed. ▼

ing legal troubles, he also faces possible sanction by the ABC. According to state ABC headquarters Deputy Division Chief Jerry Jolly, the ABC conducts its own investigation of liquor license violations following notification of complaints from police.

And, Jolly said, charges that bar owners are allegedly intoxicated on their premises, that bars are allegedly open after hours, and that bar proprietors have allegedly assaulted a police officer are taken very seriously by the ABC.

"Although I can't comment on this particular case, we take allegations that people are intoxicated in their own premises extremely seriously. If a license holder is not cooperative and actually assaults a police officer that could lead to severe discipline, including revocation of the license."

Chalker was previously arrested in June, 1992, on a outstanding bench warrant, related to a 1991 conviction for driving under the influence of alcohol.

In that incident, Chalker received 36 months of probation, a \$700 fine, a suspended jail sentence, and diversion into a treatment program.

If Chalker is convicted of misdemeanor battery against a police officer, he could face a sentence of one year in county jail and a fine of several thousand dollars. ▼

## Chalker

(Continued from page 2)

intoxicated during the incident that he was staggering and was "obviously unable to care for his own safety or that of others."

Chalker was arrested on the spot and taken to Southern Police Station on charges of being drunk and disorderly, and assault and battery on a police officer charges, and was booked into County Jail.

Chalker was booked into County Jail wearing his trademark cowboy hat, a multi-color shirt with stripes, blue jeans and black shoes, according to the report.

The drunk and disorderly charges were later dismissed by the district attorney's office, but Chalker was cited and ordered to appear on Monday, July 11 on the misdemeanor charges of battery on a police officer.

In addition to his state ABC liquor license, Chalker has also been issued San Francisco police permits that allow him to have a pool table, pinball machines, and dancing on the premises.

The police report noted that copies of the report had been filed with the state Alcohol and Beverage Control and the SFPD permits permits division.

Whatever Chalker's pend-

### Guillermo P. Pena

Guillermo was born in Juarez, Mexico, and grew up in Orange County, California. He graduated from the University of California, Irvine, where he received his BA degree in sociology and biology. He later attended UCLA, where he received a master's of science in public health policy and planning.

Guillermo served as the executive director of El Hogar Mental Health and Community Service Center, a nonprofit community-based organization providing mental health services for the Hispanic community, from 1989 through 1992. He served as personnel officer for Diogenes Youth Services, a nonprofit community-based organization providing services to troubled youths, from 1987-1989. Guillermo's contributions to Sacramento County went beyond professional employment and included volunteer work in the Hispanic community, gay and lesbian community, and health services. He acted as chairperson of the Sacramento Valley Foothill Regional Consortium, a body that is a leading voice in services to persons affected by the HIV epidemic; as a member of the Hispanic Democratic Club, and by his development of bilingual health education literature in the Central Valley, Guillermo actively supported causes of the Hispanic community.

After Guillermo moved from Sacramento, he served as program director for Community United Against Violence, a San Francisco community-based organization dedicated to ending violence and discrimination against people based on issues of color or sexual orientation; and he most recently served as the executive director for the Russian River health center, a community-based health center.

Guillermo is survived by his partner, Tony Garcia; his mother; his brother; and sisters, who reside in Southern California; and his best friend, Richard Manning. ▼



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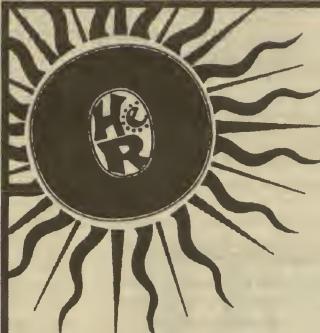
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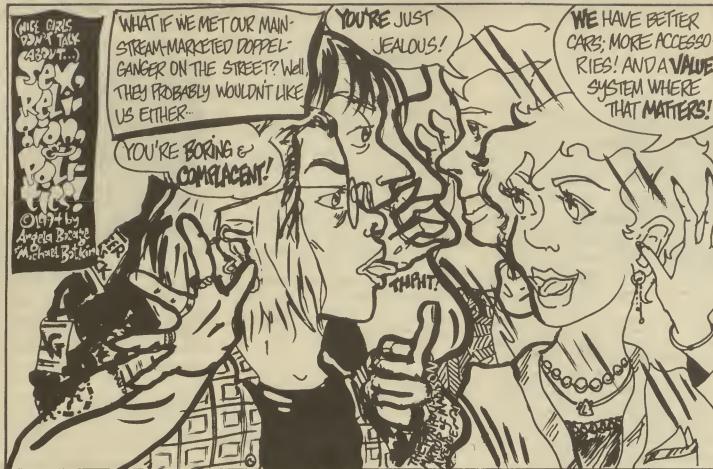
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**Queer Watch**



**'Gay/Homosexual/Lesbian'**

by Michael C. Botkin

**A** new survey of queer consumers, the first ever by a non-gay outfit, confirmed some treasured stereotypes and trashed others. Six percent of the 2,500 respondents to a national sample marketing survey checked the box for "gay/homosexual/lesbian." This is considered close enough to the classic Kinsey 10 percent to boost the hand of the Lavender Dollarists (LDs) who seek to market the gaystream to the mainstream. They lost on the flip side, though; in this properly collected sample, gays did not tend to have "higher discretionary incomes" than non-gays. However, in confirmation of a newer stereotype, gays/homosexuals/lesbians were about twice as likely to be computer-literate than their heterosexual consumer counterparts.

The proportion of homosexuals who will voluntarily identify themselves varies with the circumstances of the asking — the time, the place and the context. In generally safe and anonymous circumstances, virtually all do; thus Kinsey's finding of ten percent in 1952 (actually 13 percent of the men and six percent of the women). In highly vulnerable and public situations, few will: in a door-to-door survey done last year, where respondents were asked on their doorstep, only one percent would say they were gay. In an exit poll later that year, taken at the peak of the controversy over gays in the military, four percent of the respondents identified themselves as gay.

So six percent isn't bad; it's nicely in the ballpark of previous estimates and at the higher end of the spectrum. Since this was a survey of likely consumers, rather than the general population (whoever they are), the LDs can argue it represents a solid market ripe for investment.

This will only partially cushion the blow taken by the myth of Higher Discretionary Income. Previous surveys by gay marketing organizations reported significant Guppy-hood, well-heeled gays and lesbians with larger-than-heterosexual incomes and no expensive kids to spend it on; i.e., DINKS (Double Income/No Kids). The mainstream was only too glad to pick up this new stereotype of greedy, wealthy gays, but the advertisers remained reluc-

tant to invest in the new market. The current study will encourage them to aim more for the gay market in a general way, but not to cater to it.

**Demographically desirable**

A few months ago I commented on the prominence of Computer Queers. This was based more on general impressions (the emergence of

**Commentary**

"Digital Queers" and Apple Computer's recent standing up for gays against the Texas Christians) rather than on specific statistics. Now the hard numbers are in, and they clearly establish the gay/high-tech link. Gays were twice as likely as likely as their heterosexual counterparts (38 vs. 19 percent) to have heard of "virtual reality." We more strongly agreed that "we must all learn to live with technological change" (39 vs. 23 percent); we also have more cellular phones (15 vs. 9 percent) and nearly four times the faxes (11 vs. 3 percent).

If all those phones and faxes could be coordinated into a unified campaign, think of the splash it could make! But these particular surveyors weren't thinking of that possibility. Instead they dwelled lovingly on those things that make us "demographically desirable." These goodies were described in appropriately reverent terms in last week's review of the survey in the *New York Times*.

The fact that we were twice as likely to have attended graduate school suggests a good opportunity for book and magazine sales. We report "more stress" in our lives — could it be the strain of oppression and "the closet?" — and this makes us "likely prospects for everything from escape-style vacations to home security systems."

We're concerned about "fitness" — hey, those of us with AIDS are truly obsessed by it! — which "manifests itself in everything from keen interest in new shopping outlets to greater use of cosmetics and fragrances." That much is true; I'm still looking for an aftershave that will cover the odor of all those fish oil and food supplement capsules I take.

And, of course, there are all those high-tech toys we're

twice as likely to use — on top of which gays are 60 percent more likely to be self-employed. Again, it could be avoidance of discrimination in the workplace, but in any case, we must amount to a decent market for office technology.

**Riotous shoppers**

It's always odd to see the gay community reflected in these funhouse mirrors of mainstream construction. Here we are at the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall riots, groping for our identity and confronted by these oddly distorted images. Are we a riotous mob or a lucrative market? Are we looters or shoppers? Can we amount to a serious political force, or must we be satisfied with being merely preferred customers, as long as our dollars hold out?

The original idea of the gay pride marches held on the anniversary of Stonewall was to create visibility, to break the silence and challenge the myths by direct demonstration. There has always been grumbling that the resulting flamboyant display isn't truly "representative," but this is clearly the Closet's resentment of Pride. Concealed gays who won't reveal themselves have little claim on the fashions of those of us who do.

A more recent, and more San Franciscan phenomenon, is the rainbow flag. As the "gay season" approaches (officially the gay season opens with the pride parade in June and closes with Halloween), more and more rainbow flags are emerging. Market Street is lined with them (provided at private, not city, expense and saved for this time of year), and individual ones sprout with increasing profusion from apartments all across the Castro and gayish zone in the Mission.

It's another way of saying who we are, in contrast to the mostly false images we see being promoted around us. Some day, perhaps, sexual orientation will be a non-issue, probably only well after such things as "market surveys" have become equally obsolete. Rioters? Shoppers? Whatever we are, I'm sure we'll be simply fabulous at it.

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## THE SUNNY DESERT PLAYGROUND OF PALM SPRINGS

By Jim Kavanaugh

It's time to dispel the notion that summer in Palm Springs is too hot. Of course, it **does** get hot - wonderfully hot, often over 100° but also frequently in the high '80s and low '90s. But it's a marvelous dry heat, totally different from the often damp, humid air of coastal resorts and inland cities.

You don't sweat. You can even run in comfort. Days are long and the South - Western sun shines and shines. You are virtually guaranteed a golden tan in Palm Springs. No smog. No fog no rain no drizzle and no disappointment.

The desert in the summer offers perfect weather plus clean, invigorating healthful air. It's a chance to discover what a distinct pleasure simply breathing can be! Indeed, the sunny, warm climate makes Palm Springs (where it rains only 15 days each year) the only genuinely year-round destination resort in the U.S.A.. Add the incredibly diverse attractions and the numerous gay restaurants, bars and clubs and you have the premier holiday destination for gay men and women.

### SUPER ACTIVITIES

Palm Springs in the summer is not just for sun-worshippers. Options for shopping, sight-seeing and entertainment are endless. The Oasis Water Park brings the ocean to the desert. The active can challenge themselves on countless tennis courts and golf courses. There's hiking in the nearby Joshua Tree Monument Park. Horseback riding, jeep tours, balloon rides and the famous Aerial Tramway running from the desert floor to the peak of Mount San Jacinto 8,516 feet above to lure the adventurous.

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Palm Springs in the summer is not just for sun-worshippers. Options for shopping, sight-seeing and entertainment are endless. The Oasis Water Park brings the ocean to the desert. The active can challenge themselves on countless tennis courts and golf courses. There's hiking in the nearby Joshua Tree Monument Park. Horseback riding, jeep tours, balloon rides and the famous Aerial Tramway running from the desert floor to the peak of Mount San Jacinto 8,516 feet above to lure the adventurous.

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## Community News

# Bike Ride Fights AIDS

by Dennis Conkin

The Golden Gate Bridge was the site of a kick off ceremony by Supervisor Angela Aioto for 22 bicyclists who will pedal from San Francisco to Washington, DC, to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS.

The 9th annual event has bikers pedaling from virtually every corner of the US with routes from Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Brownsville, Texas and Montreal, Canada.

"It's a great group of kids. I'm on the board of Bay Positives, for youth with HIV infection. This project will help raise money for AIDS groups locally and internationally. It's really wonderful and I'm glad to give my support," Aioto told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The venture has riders from as far away as Burundi, Cameroon, Japan, Great Britain, Hong Kong and Thailand and includes teachers, community organizers, and business professionals.

The routes converge in Washington DC on August 19 after stops at AIDS organizations and other sponsors throughout the country. Rider rental vans and The GAP are principal sponsors.

The ride is a program of the Overseas Development Network, a national student network which involves individuals in local and global issues through education, hands-on learning experience and community action. ▼

# Study Dispels Bi/Gay AIDS Link

by Dennis Conkin

A University of California San Francisco study has demolished the myth that bisexual men are the bridge for AIDS into the heterosexual community.

According to the study by Dr. Maria Ekstrand of the Center For AIDS Prevention study, bisexual men "are unlikely to spread HIV infection to their female partners."

In this country, most HIV cases are in the gay community, so when a heterosexual woman contracts AIDS, people often assume that a bisexual man transmitted the virus to her," Ekstrand says.

But, the study of 1,034 bisexual men between July 1984 and July 1988 who were between the ages of 26 and 54, showed that single bisexual

men in San Francisco "have made dramatic changes in their behavior," according to Ekstrand.

According to the study, HIV-negative bisexual men are about three times more likely to engage in sex with men than with women. Among those who had sex with women, unsafe sex was the norm with 80 percent engaging in unprotected vaginal intercourse. In contrast, the study notes, that only 26 percent of those who had unsafe sex with men reported unprotected intercourse.

The study also found that among HIV-positive bisexual men, most of the sexual risk taking was with other men. The level of unprotected anal sex were reduced dramatically from 89 percent at the beginning of the study to 18 percent at the end.

Seven percent of subjects reported having sex with women in 1988-89 and in this group, two percent reported unsafe sexual intercourse.

The study has limitations, according to Ekstrand, because it didn't research closet bisexuals—or those who were married, but she believes the results "are encouraging."

"But ultimately, we must remember that we need to take universal precautions when having sex. We can't rely on our partners behaving responsibly. Every one should assume that a partner could be HIV positive and insist on the use of condoms, at least in new relationships," Ekstrand said.

The study was reported in June issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*. ▼

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## LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 186146

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 186585

The following person is doing business as JAZ VAUGHAN, 265 Fell St. #502, San Francisco, CA 94102; CHARLTON L. VAUGHAN, 265 Fell St #502, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date May 13, 1994. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed CHARLTON L. VAUGHAN.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 13, 1994.

June 9, 16, 23, 30, 1994. L-186146

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 186453

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 186518

The following person is doing business as KAWELO (Floral Visions), 1411 Florida St. #5, San Francisco, CA 94110; TRAVIS WAYNE MARSHALL, 1411 Florida St. #5, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date May 24, 1994. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed TRAVIS WAYNE MARSHALL.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 24, 1994.

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 1994. L-186453

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 186238

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
STATEMENT FILE NO. 186518

The following person is doing business as VM ENTERPRISES, 443 Connecticut St. #3, San Francisco, CA 94107; VINCENT JOSEPH MONTANELLI, 443 Connecticut St. #3, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 1, 1994. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed VINCENT JOSEPH MONTANELLI.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 26, 1994.

June 16, 23, 30, July 7, 1994. L-186518

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## PRIDE

by Jim Provenzano

"Stonewall serves as a reminder that we have never gotten anything without a struggle,"

said B.C. Craig, an AIDS activist in New York, one of the thousands counter-marching the official Stonewall March June 26, an event which, it turns out, will be ripe with controversy, clashing factions, and unrest.

Sounds like a riot.

Are things any better here in Happy Land? Does San Francisco, our enclave of inverters, serve as a higher example of harmonic unity through diversity?

According to the mountains of gay junk mail that every homo who gets his or her name attached to that dubi-

ous list receives, we're all successful, real estate-owning, five-digit-sum-earning guppies and luppies, right? Civil rights via Freedom Ring tote bags? Long life with removable red ribbon tattoos?

Pardon my gumption, Mary, but we may have

## PROTEST

missed the boat, and it ain't the Intrepid.

While reminding "them" the rest of the world, how oppressed we are, and we are, despite the over-styled magazine chic depiction of our lives, we've overcompensated in the fabulous "lifestyle" department. We did not buy our sexuality from an Ikea catalogue. We do not have lifestyles. We have lives.

Style often precedes content. We're terrific at decorat-

ing, but often forget the basic tools of civil rights: alertness, anger, and action. Five hundred miles of rainbow flag still won't eliminate discrimination or cure AIDS, unless we perhaps wrap it around congress and take over the damn place.

Not that celebratory props don't have their merit. One person's symbolic memento is another's throwaway tchotcke. To cut through the

(Continued on next page)



Two hunks prove that a kiss is still a kiss at the Gay Pride Parade. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)



Old lesbians trip the light fantastic at a Halloween fundraiser. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)



And baby makes three as Olivia toddles alongside her two moms at Gay Pride Fest. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)



Trendy trio caught by the camera on the sidelines at the parade. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

*(Continued from previous page)*

souvenir binge, we often dish our colleagues in an ever-desperate move to discard that which is not what we consider worthy. We criticize our groups for not having their act together, but if they do, then we slam them for being too assimilationist. It's impossible to please a crowd, especially a queer one, where diversity is an understatement.

We fight every year for access. Every sub-sub group wants to hold the banner, and deservedly so. We can't keep kvetching about one group getting more publicity than another. There isn't time.

With every year come the denunciations from the bloated politicians, the Christian worshippers of instruments of torture (and not the fun ones, either), the derisive DJ and TV news comments debating the worthiness of our existence, their made-up faces gleaming with formica charm.

They may have finally gotten the real idea behind Stonewall, but now we're ready to move on.

California folk will always give Stonewall its due perspective. Queers were stirring up shit out here a long time before the night Judy died, but it seems we have to have something "official" to go with our Keith Haring refrigerator magnets.

Some people don't even like to go to gay pride marches, claiming "homo overload." After you've seen ten parades, you've seen 'em all, they say.

Each year, though, thousands of gay and lesbian and bi people are marching, and watching, for the first time.

Somehow, through all the commercial dreck, and the misrepresentation, and the infighting, Pride still has some meaning. Not in the T-shirts, or the nightclubs, or the key chains or the magazines.

Stonewall reminds us that, if necessary, we will fight back. Stonewall is the exaltation of sexual dissent.

In 1988, at the height of the Reagan madness, I had to work on the last Sunday in June, and nearly missed seeing New York's Pride March.

But something compelled me, drove me down to Fifth Avenue. That painted lavender stripe was like a magnet. I saw drag queens and hunky men and dykes with babies and rows of PWAs in wheelchairs and fabulous floats. I vowed after that day to never let anyone prevent me from celebrating my fagulosity.

Yes, it's all a mess, and the power-hungry will always grab the microphone, and the drag queens and leather folk will always be caught in the Christian cameras, for they are so bilious with envy that they cannot help but be fascinated by us.

So prepare yourselves for another round of reactionary spew, another dose of twisted news anchor cynicism, but remember that this isn't their party.

After the buzz wears off, get off your butt and write some letters to whoever needs your homo-active input. Given the chance, the rest of the world would rather we just keep our mouths shut. Let's make sure that never happens again.

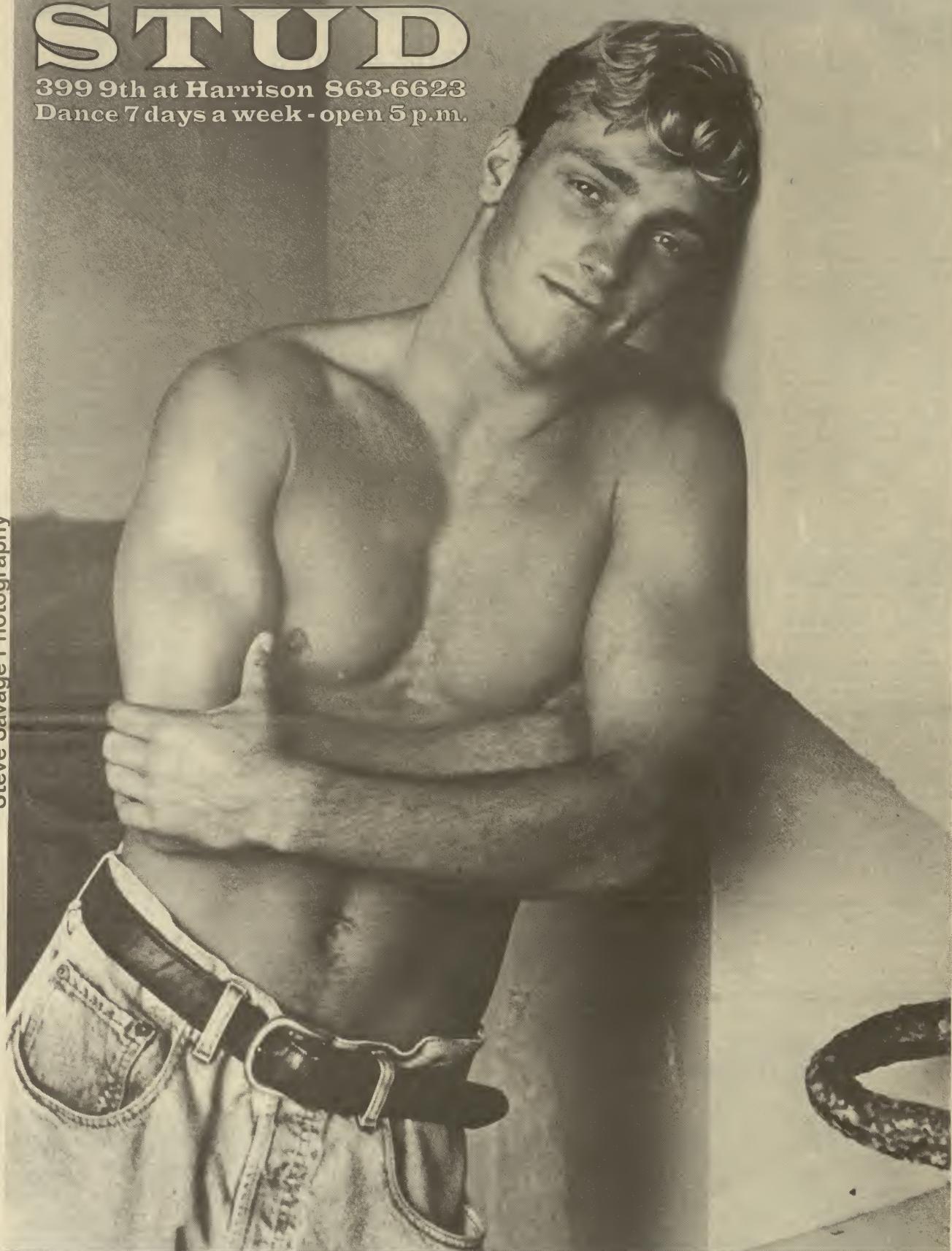
This month, celebrate your right to dissent. Celebrate every variation on the theme of sexuality. Celebrate every size, color and shape we come in. Celebrate the season, and the Goddess, or any other deity that loves us for what we are. Celebrate the fact that every now and then we take over the street, and somehow, despite the infighting, we put on a good show.

Celebrate any way you can, and while you're at it, don't forget to keep the sex safe. We want to see you next year, and the year after that. Stonewall turns thirty-something in 2000. That'll be one wild mid-life crisis. ▼

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## Rikki Streicher Talks about a 'Lifetime of Distinguished Service'

by Nancy Boutilier

It seems perfectly fitting that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors chose Valentine's Day to present a certificate to Rikki Streicher. After all, Streicher has captured the hearts of many members of the lesbian community here, and her legendary bar Maud's was the home where those hearts responded.

While presenting the certificate, in recognition of her Lifetime of Distinguished Service, Supervisor Carole Migden called Streicher "an out-front dyke," "a trailblazer," and "a role model for the lesbian community." City Attorney Louise Renne followed, calling Streicher someone "who speaks from the heart, with her head, and with all of her soul," and who "has tried to make the world a better place."

All of those things and more, Streicher has been active in making the Bay Area a better place for lesbians since the mid-40s, but is probably best known today as the woman behind both Maud's and Amelia's, another popular lesbian bar of the recent past.

In fact, it's hard to find a community cause that Streicher hasn't supported over the past half century. She has served as a board member on the Society for Individual Rights (SIR), the Cable Car Awards, the Godfather Service Fund, the AIDS Emergency Fund, 18th Street Services, the Tavern Guild, to name just a few. She has sponsored a variety of athletic teams, "supporting every softball player that ever walked in the door," and helped to establish the Gay Games.

And then there was Maud's.

Streicher opened Maud's in 1966. And while Streicher and her friends try to escape cliche words like "family" and "home" when describing the atmosphere at the watering hole, immortalized by the



Lesbian trailblazer Rikki Streicher: "I decided to become a dyke, and when I was a dyke, I was a DYKE!"

(Photo: Darlene Photo/Graphics)

documentary *Last Call at Maud's*, they all have trouble avoiding them.

"Maud's was open 365 days a year," said a former patron who attended the dinner held in Streicher's honor last week. "We were there for Christmas and Thanksgiving. There was turkey and stuffing. That was our home."

And like every home, Maud's is the place of stories, rich reminders of a time and place.

There was, for instance, the story of women getting arrested for smoking marijuana and using their one call to phone Maud's, to find someone to figure out how to get into the safe to go downtown to bail the woman out. Or of the challenge to a football game from another bar: "Oh, there was always a dispute," said Streicher. "Give me two dykes and I'll give you a dispute." Or of the monthly Zodiac parties, and the post-softball game parties. "We only went to the bar that [sponsored the team that] won," Streicher

recalled, "so nobody ever went to Maud's, and I got to be a real piss-poor loser."

Then there are the stories of the sixties, many of which are still undisseminated; as Migden said, "many carefully constructed careers would be shattered if Rikki had hidden cameras in those days."

Fortunately, Streicher did document those days, and she plans to send her photographic histories of Maud's and Amelia's to the gay and lesbian wing of the new library.

One wall of her study is filled with photo albums, color coded according to topic.

During a recent interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Streicher made a number of visits to that wall to illustrate her point with a photograph or two: "Maud's was a unique place, in a unique time. You couldn't do that in today's world because there is no community."

Streicher said she is still in touch with many of the same people who were in San Francisco when she arrived in the mid-1940s. "I don't think that people today are going to have that sense of family," she commented.

While recognizing that bars are not as central to the lesbian community as they once were, Streicher said,

"I've always liked bars. I know that they carry a stigma, but it seems to me that there is a great deal more honesty and integrity in any bar I've ever been in than there is in any living room I've ever been in."

For someone who has been called "a role model for the lesbian community" — and, as one former bartender said, "who has meant so much to so many" — Streicher had very few role models of her own.

"I went to private girls' schools," she said, recalling her upbringing, "so right away, there's about 99,000 things you don't do right off the bat."

She learned to fly, "back in those days when they had windsocks on barns" and Amelia Earhart was her heroine.

But when trying to identify role models, Streicher said, "No one — because there really wasn't anyone. There weren't any organizations. Phyllis [Lyon] and Del [Martin] were trying to form the Daughters of Bilitis, but that was in North Beach and that was in the 50s. So, starting out in the mid-40s, you just sort of went along."

"Nothing but women"

Before arriving in San Francisco, Streicher landed in Los Angeles and "got very lucky," she said. "All the men were at war, so there was nothing but women — except Van Johnson and Keenan Wynn — in all of Hollywood. I wasn't a hooker, I didn't want to be a movie star, so I fell into this job taking pictures. As a camera girl, I thought it was rude to go up and interrupt anybody's conversation to ask them if they wanted a picture, so I wound up in the darkroom, which was wonderful. It was right where I wanted to be."

When she discovered her sexuality, she said, she "immediately moved to San Francisco to practice."

Streicher said that North Beach was the place to be. "I landed during the Bohemians. I may be the only person in life who ever actually read the boxed set of Proust! Everybody had it, because that was the gratuity for signing up for the Book-of-the-Month Club."

"You had to be highly political, and if you read anything that anybody else had ever heard of, why, nobody would speak to you. All of it had to be fairly esoteric, or else you just weren't in the ballgame."

Those were the days when "the guys still had to show up at the office party with some woman," said Streicher, but, beyond the political expediency, the men and women were separate. "We all knew each other, and if there was some reason, you got together," but generally the circles did not overlap. "The women would have three bars," she noted dryly, "and the men would have one-hundred-and-three bars."

### Turning points

Streicher sees World War II and the 60s as two turning points in lesbian history. The war "was the first time women could leave home without being pregnant. Up 'til then, if somebody left home for some strange place, you knew that it was some terrible so-

(Continued on next page)



Happy Gay Day 1994  
Keep On Moving the Movement  
**Doris M. Ward, Assessor**



Rikki Streicher gets a standing ovation from those honoring her at a recent Marines Memorial dinner.  
(Photo: Darlene Photo/Graphics)



(Continued from previous page)

cial reason forcing them to go."

The sexual revolution of the 60s "changed the morality forever," according to Streicher. "There are new kinds of political efforts to stuff reality back into the bottle, and pretend it isn't so," she said, "but, inevitably, it's just a new kind of fascism, or a new kind ofism that somebody uses."

When asked about her own motivation for being out at a time when so few people dared, Streicher credits her own intolerance. "Well, it was just because I hate hypocrisy. Bigotry and hypocrisy are the two things I will not deal with anyone."

So, what was it like to come out in the 40s? "When I came out there were a lot of women who were from blue-collar families. So they were the dykes because men were their models. They lived life like blue-collar men. That's how the women saw themselves, and they were fairly limited in the areas that they could work in and socialize in. But, that was okay because they were the majority, and they had each other."

"Then there were the lesbians, and the butches. A butch and a dyke were two different things altogether. A dyke came out of that butch-dyke concept. And the butch could either have slight male pretensions or appearances, and could, in a flash be a girl. ... In those days we were girls."

And how did Streicher see herself? "I bounced all over the place. I decided to become a dyke, and when I was a dyke, I was a DYKE! Or a butch, but I was always small, and as shy as I was, I could talk and deal with whatever came up."

Shy? It's hard to think of Streicher as shy.

#### A hearty laugh

This is a woman who laughs heartily when telling about the days when she was made responsible for SIR's public relations, and her first press conference was about the spread of syphilis and gonorrhea. "And I thought 'how am I going to manage this?'" recalls Streicher, and yet, it's fully understood that she did manage, with wisdom and wit.

After witnessing a half a century of lesbian life in San Francisco, where does Streicher see us heading?

"I don't know. And I've thought about it and thought about it. I've watched everybody march off to sobriety and work ethic, and it was time and it was very good. But, unfortunately, a lot of people replaced their past habits — which were fun, and growing up, and being bad — with sobriety. And right away, they started to choose their sober groups the same ways they chose their social group. Everybody wanted to be thought of in this echelon or that one. The times dictate what 'in' is, and that's where everyone wanted to be perceived. Very

**"It seems to me there is more honesty and integrity in any bar I've ever been in than in any living room I've ever been in."**

way you were judged 20 or 40 years ago, but when you get right down to it, when the bottom line comes along, you had better really be superior if you're going to say 'I am what I am, now accept me and let's get on with this.' It just doesn't happen."

At the closing of Maud's, Streicher found that everyone was waiting for her to say something meaningful. She stood, for a moment, speechless, trying to figure out how to sum it all up.

Finally, she realized that she couldn't do it, so she left the assembled crowd with her signature phrase: "And there ya have it."

Streicher's life perfectly illustrated what she, herself, could not put into words at that moment. As one of her friends said, the way Streicher lived taught those who knew her "to live honestly and openly, work hard, be responsible, be generous, and never forget where you came from."

And there ya have it! ▼

rarely do people respect anybody for their deeper meaning."

As for the ways in which gays and lesbians fit into the larger society? "They say it's changing, and obviously, today, you can be many things without being judged in the

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## The Stud: A Dreamsplace for Queer Angels

by Mark Freeman

My first experience with The Stud was in a pillow book, one of those yellow-bound volumes in the Parisian Press series put out by Le Salon. This particular book, probably by Billy Farout, was given to me when I visited some gay guy's apartment in the Haight. The guy who gave it to me said something like, "This is really hot, you'll like it," which came as something of a surprise to me, a 22-year-old supposedly straight, curly-tressed hippie with a girlfriend. The novel turned out to be pure Summer of Love-style porn, gay escapades in picaresque San Francisco. Several of the book's scenes took place in two places that would eventually become San Francisco legends in the '70s, the Ritch St. baths and The Stud.

I don't know how long it took before I finally got myself to find and enter The Stud. By this time my girlfriend and I had spent a year

traveling in Latin America, and had returned only to see the end of our relationship. Within weeks I'd fallen in with (and in love with one of) a group of young gay politicians. Mostly, they were too correct to go to bars, unless it was to leaflet. But I knew exactly where I wanted to go, and found someone to take me.

There was never a line to get into the old Stud in the '70s — and there was never a door charge. All it took was a walk through the neon glow from across the street (at Hamburger Mary's) through a heavy door, and then past two big, seemingly always stoned bouncers who sat against the wall. In the new Stud, the bouncers are stationed outside the door; their old location was inside, perched on the right hand, like gatekeepers to the Emerald City. You entered and proceeded clockwise.

In the old days, the Stud was crowded on any night of the week with the best that '70s San Francisco could of-



"Gidget" and friend, whooping it up at The Stud on the last night at the Folsom St. address in May, 1987. (Photo: Marc Geller)

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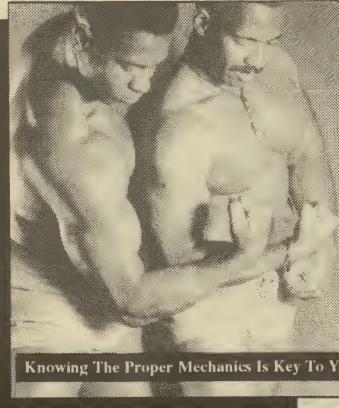
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The dance floor was made of uneven wooden planks; funky camp paraphernalia dripped from the ceiling and erotic artwork adorned the walls. Beyond the "ballroom" was a coat-check boy who shared space with a urinal open to public view and two private toilet booths, which were used almost exclusively for making drug deals. The circuit from there went around the far side of the central bar, through another narrow passageway full of friends or posing artwankers, past the pool table — an elite corner of trash and trade — and came to an end at the pinball niche that guarded the office. Always this same great circle route: I never knew anyone to do it counter-clockwise.

Over the years the faces

changed but people still looked the same. They were just as young, somehow, just as different. Now, it was no longer beards with glitter, but equally outrageous mohawks or cats in X hats. The Stud crowd could never be accused of being clonoid, yet always had its own "correct" look.

In August 1987, The Stud moved away from its Folsom St. location, away from its sister, Hamburger Mary's. Now, the pool table had a different location, but some of the old folks are still shooting pool and Larry Larue still spins vintage discs on Wednesday nights. Today's crowd, however, won't put up with '50s music: "Oldies" now means psychedelia, maybe some surfer stuff, classic disco, even '80s techno-puff.

For those who discover The Stud today, it means as much to them as it did to the neo-hipsters at the end of the Eisenhower era, their hippie progeny, and the gay libbers and New Wavers of the late '70s. And it's been an equally important magnet for the children of the '80s, who are characterized by a strange amalgam of repression and rebellion. The Stud in the '90s is still a mix of studied cool, those who could care less, pugnacious political punks, art school poseurs wondering if they're missing out on some other place even more hip, kids of all colors well on their way to Coming Out, and drugged angels dancing on the famed head of the pin, along with just plain gay folks who appreciate this particular mix.

The Stud has occupied a remarkable place in this city's gay history. There were always bigger and better places to dance, it's true. At one point that honor would have gone to the Mineshaft on Market St. (once picketed for carding only minorities and women) before it became Alfie's. For a while, Oil Can Harry's filled the need for good black music and a racially mixed clientele. When the

Midnight Sun moved around the corner from Castro St. it stopped being home base for "genderfuck queens" and went video. The Alley Cat in the Tenderloin had a few too many fights involving dykes or drag queens and finally closed, as did the Rendezvous, which used to keep go-go boys in sailor suits dancing in cages. The I-Beam was the new "in" place (and not just on Sundays). And then there was the Troc and Dreamland, and later, Boy Parties. Recent venues have been the surreal Klubstitute, the Underworld affairs, world beat Fridays at N'Zinga, hip-hop Thursdays at the Box and a profusion of lesbian dance party clubs that began with Club Q.

But for three generations of gay men, the Stud has always been there, the bar you go to any night of the week, year after year. The place where this and that child, however weird, can find some kind of family. A homeplace. Long may it live.

#### Just dance around it

The Stud's birthpangs can be traced back to Beirut, Lebanon. That's where George Matson, who was working as a pantomime entertainer in the Mideast, met up with former acquaintance Richard Conroy and together the two made plans to open a restaurant in Las Vegas. The location, however, was later changed to San Francisco, and the idea of a cafe evolved into a bar — a place they found with a beer and wine license on Folsom Street whose owner had to sell because he'd been busted for selling to minors. It had previously catered to a motorcycle club, The Gypsy Jokers. "We had chains to hang your jacket on and tried to do everything as cheaply as possible," is how founder George Matson recalls it in a recent interview given at his quiet farmhouse in Sonoma County.

George speaks of beginning (Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

nings. The Stud opened on May 27, 1966. "I was becoming a hippie, I guess, when I came back from Europe. I put up psychedelic posters in our place and people came in and seemed outraged to see this guy with long hair behind the bar. A year later, though, they'd come in with their own hair long." George is still looking good and wearing his hair long, but now it's multi-colored, non-artistically. "We weren't bar people, so we did something different. Even bar people liked it."

#### Senational music

Among the innovations that made The Stud different from other bars was the type of music played there. Its jukebox played French rock 'n' roll, and some sappy tear-jerkers," reports Matson, "so I substituted comedy records without changing the old listings." People thought they were getting rock, but it would come out "Caro Nome" from *Rigoletto*, or Beatrice Lillie singing "There Are Fairies in the Bottom of My Garden" or a Gracie Fields song. Then, they took out the jukebox entirely ("Which almost caused riots, since it was a meeting tool") and began to program tapes, an innovation even without the last-call piece, Vaughn-Williams' *The Lark Ascending*, "which sent patrons home with a quiet smile."

"We ran it as a bar for people, not just pretty bodies," is how George puts it, "and coinci-

cidentally, a lot of love affairs started there." A lot of women also came, and told us it was the first gay men's bar that they felt comfortable in."

But George never really liked the bar business and sold his half to his partner in the early '70s. "Richard is still alive but under different circumstances; she is now Alexis. She sold the bar to the owner of Hamburger Mary's and has gone to live in a 35-room mansion in Mexico, in Guadalajara, or somewhere."

What is it about The Stud that George misses? "Maybe the Saturnalias. Since Christmas stole a lot of its glory from the pagans, we decided to celebrate Saturnalia. We'd close early and completely redecorate the bar. The first year it was psychedelic and the second year it was all country — we brought in trees and live birds and made the rear exit the entrance. Then we stayed up all night putting it back together the way it had been done. No photos allowed. So it existed only in the memories of those who were there."

#### That's Larue to you

Larry Holloway doesn't need to rely on memories; he's still at The Stud four nights a week. Bright-eyed and ever youthful, Larue as he is known to Studettes, is the bar's premier disc jockey. He began work at the bar as a janitor a short while after George had sold it to Richard (Alexis), who sold out to Jerry "Trixie" Jones, along with Heidi (Heidi

Steffan, R.G.) and Jan Hill. Trixie, along with a man named Pooh and Toulouse (Lips) Mulvey, also owned Hamburger Mary's. The Stud was later bought out by current owner Jim (aka Edie) in October of 1974.

Larry and Jim were together for 15 years and friends for three more. "He'd been a deejay at Hamburger Mary's when I was a janitor at The Stud," tells LaRue, "and he used to come over and play pinball. Then we'd challenge each other at pool. One day the prize was my bootie. And the rest is history."

Larue remembers when the eastern half of the old Stud was a separate building, called the church side because it was a coffee house fronting as a Universal Life Corral, an organization that helped people avoid being drafted into the war in Vietnam. They tore the wall out, moved the deejay booth in and expanded the dance floor.

The first deejay hired was Chrysler Shelton (in drag tradition, known as Borora Borealis), who bucked the then current disco craze by playing lots of funk. Music at The Stud continued to be eclectic: favorites were The Pointer Sisters, Al Green, Eddie Kendricks, Suzie Quatro, David Bowie, and songs like Lou Reed's "Rock 'n' Roll Animal." Then one night, as Larue puts it: "I replaced another deejay who wrote an article about punk rockers and how rude they were." And Larry played punk music.



The Stud, May 1987, on the last night at the Folsom St. address.

(Photo: Marc Geller)

#### First to go punk

"We weren't just the first gay bar to play New Wave music — we were the first bar of any kind in San Francisco to do that. It was almost demanded of me," says Larue. Punks who made the art scene and lived South of Market used to find their way to The Stud every Sunday afternoon for the free (if you bought a drink) spaghetti feed. "They were my friends and they started bringing in new records — like Patti Smith — and insisting I play them."

Mondays became Punk Nights and they were always exciting, some nights more than others. "White Night" (the riot at City Hall after the minimal sentencing Dan White received for shooting Mayor Moscone and Harvey Milk) was one of the most memo-

rable because they all came to party afterward, and it just happened to be on a Monday. I don't recall anybody bleeding, but there was a lot of slam dancing. I played all the revolutionary music; you know, Stones, Sex Pistols.

"It was on another Punk Night that Dianne Feinstein came in. She was campaigning, shaking hands before the election the next day — it was brave of her to show up on a Monday. And all the girls yelled, 'Hi Diane, love your hair!' But when I put on the most popular dance song of the day — the Ramones' hit 'I Want to Be Sedated' — a cheer went up, and poor Di thought it was for her."

Larue would mix in oldies with the new stuff whenever he was in the deejay booth.

(Continued on page 65)

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## Easternizing Medicine

### Acupuncture & Herbs' Adherents and Detractors

by Doug Seto

On Feb. 3, 1993, the *San Jose Mercury News* interviewed Stanton Schaffer, a 42-year-old man with AIDS, who had supplemented his medical program with traditional Chinese medicine including acupuncture, ancient herbs, and Chi Gong. 15 months later, Schaffer is still alive.

"You called to see if I died, didn't you?" asked Schaffer, who just finished recovering from Pneumocystis Carinii Pneumonia, an AIDS-related pneumonia, his voice sounding tired. "I almost died from pneumonia, but traditional Chinese medicine helped me live with AIDS as a communicably manageable disease."

Schaffer discovered he was HIV positive in 1988 and was prescribed modern, western drugs such as AZT, ddC, and ddI over a three-year period. The drugs managed to block the replication of the virus inside his body, but they also produced harmful side effects.

"AZT made me anemic," said Schaffer. "It depleted my white and red blood cells and muscles. Traditional Chinese medicine has helped relieve the side effects and boost my red blood cells."

In addition to side effects, Schaffer suffered from HIV-

related neuropathy, a painful numbness of the arms, legs and feet. One day, Schaffer told a western-trained physician friend about his horrible pain. The friend advised him to try traditional Chinese medicine as a supplement to his AZT program. At first, Schaffer says, he thought his friend recommended he "see a witch doctor."

In 1991, Schaffer contacted Misha Cohen, a practitioner of traditional Chinese medicine. Cohen treated Schaffer's swollen left arm with heat acupuncture, in which dozens of acupuncture needles, attached to wires and electrodes, were pricked into his arm. Cohen flipped an electric switch and small pulsations of heat flowed through Schaffer's body.

"The [arm] pain has vanished, but it still lingers in my feet," says Schaffer.

Many doctors are sceptical, and believe acupuncture does not work in most cases. Dr. Robert Kimmich, a San Francisco-based psychiatrist, says, "I have had patients who have tried it. Traditional Chinese medicine has helped a few; many others had no luck with it."

"These things aren't medicine," agrees Richard Lui, a male nurse.

"Eastern medicine is a lit-

tle too closed-minded. You should treat the problem, not only the symptom," says Scott Kelly, sports therapist for the San Jose Sharks.

Others disagree, citing both anecdotal evidence and the immense popularity of Eastern medicine, and argue that it is Western medicine that is closed-minded.

"Today, traditional Chinese medicine is used by about 20% of the global population, making it the second-largest medical system in the world," says Thomas Sinclair, executive director of the Immune Enhancement Project of San Francisco. Sinclair said that The San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS office funds five San Francisco clinics that treat hundreds of HIV and AIDS patients with traditional Chinese medicine. These clinics are Health Center Nos. 1 & 2, Saint Anthony's clinic, the Mission Neighborhood Health Center and the South of Market Health Center. All five clinics have long waiting lists for HIV/AIDS treatment. Other cities, including New York, Boston, Austin and Chicago, sponsor similar programs.

Practitioners of traditional Chinese medicine undergo strict test and licensing requirements administered by



Mayway Herb Shop at 622 Broadway St.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

the Board of Quality Medical Assurance and the Department of Consumer Affairs. Future acupuncturists must undergo three years of post undergraduate study at recognized schools like the Quan Yin [goddess of mercy] Healing Arts Center in San Francisco.

There is more to traditional Chinese medicine than acupuncture. Licensed practitioners also prescribe herbal formulas containing such ingredients as licorice, ginseng, ginger and lotus seed for "internal strength."

"If your internal strength is low, you won't get better," says Schaffer. "It's like bad morale at the office. If people have low morale, they may still get the job done, but it's not done well or as quickly."

Cohen is working on a formula to terminate *Cryptosporidiosis*, a parasite that lives inside our bodies but is resisted by healthy immune systems. The *Cryptosporidiosis* grows inside the bodies of people with HIV and AIDS when their immune systems become weak. Cohen treats Schaffer's *Cryptosporidiosis* infection with a salt "moxabustion" treatment.

Cohen places acupuncture needles on designated body points, then fills Schaffer's navel with salt and puts a piece of pleasant-smelling burning mugwort on his belly. Cohen explains the salt prevents the skin from burning. "I don't know if it kills the parasite, but I feel better," says Schaffer.

Schaffer also suffered from a case of fungal infection, commonly called thrush, turning his tongue from red to white. Cohen used acupuncture and acidophilous, a "friendly bacteria" that lives in the human colon and is added to some yogurts for its health benefits and tangy flavor.

Typically for acupuncture, needles were not placed on the tongue; they were placed on the ears, legs, belly, hands and forehead. "The infection is gone," Schaffer says.

Proponents of traditional Chinese medicine have provided scientific evidence on the effectiveness of this an-

cient practice. Francoise Barre-Sinoussi, one of the recognized discoverers of HIV, studied the effects of *Xia-chai-hu-tang*, a formula that contains herbs such as ginseng. Her experiments concluded that high doses of *Xia-chai-hu-tang* inhibit the activity of an essential retroviral enzyme of HIV by 70% to 80% in test tubes.

An experiment at M.D. Anderson Hospital demonstrated that certain polysaccharides from Chinese herbs can restore immune system functions damaged by chemical drugs and radiation. Rats injected with polysaccharides from the Chinese herb *astragalus* developed an increased number of intraperitoneal macrophages (a virus group that infects specific bacteria) and enhanced T-cell transformation.

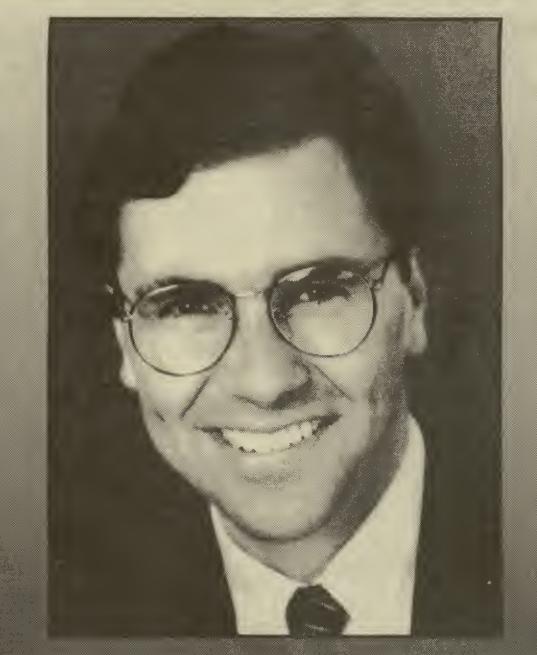
"Roots from the *radix-astragalus* are the only parts used in making medicine. They make you stronger," says Lin Hsu, who sells Chinese medicine at the "Lu Sheng Wei" shop in San Francisco's Chinatown.

Today, Schaffer continues supplementing his treatment program with traditional Chinese medicine. He also sees Stuart Yee, a martial-arts expert and former California bodybuilding champion, three days each week for personal fitness training.

Yee said that traditional Chinese medicine is helping Schaffer succeed in his muscle training program, and has taken him from his former weight of 110 pounds to his current weight of 145.

"Acupuncture gives you better response in your finger's nerve endings [so you can lift heavy weights] and increases the circulatory system. Chinese herbs enhance the immune and central nervous system," said Yee.

"Everything I have done [medicine, acupuncture, herbs and exercise] has helped maintain my health," Schaffer says. "I can't tell you how they all integrate, but it's important for those with AIDS and HIV. My biceps look great — and I have no problem wearing a tank top or taking off my shirt." ▼



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# Judge Herb Donaldson: Getting Older and Better

by David O'Connor

All it took was one pink ribbon to initiate a Navy investigation of Herb Donaldson's sexuality in the 1940s.

Now a San Francisco Municipal Court Judge, Donaldson said the Navy never proved he was gay and eventually dropped the inquiry.

"I had a relationship with an Air Force boy who was discharged," Donaldson remembered. "They found letters of mine in his locker. It was not so much what was in the letters, but that he had them wrapped in a pink ribbon."

Donaldson survived the interrogation and served 22 years in the Navy and reserves until his opposition to the Vietnam War drove him out of the service in 1966. "I would put on my tie and it felt like I was putting a noose on," he said. "It was time for me to get out."

Donaldson was appointed to his judgeship in 1983 by then Governor Jerry Brown. Before that, he worked as a criminal defense lawyer.

He said he enjoys his work because he sees it as a chance to help people.

"Through a lack of initiative or for whatever reason, people find themselves facing criminal charges. I decided if I could give some assistance to one person a week I'll be doing well," he said.

Donaldson, 67, has seen a lot change since his years in the military and growing up in Wisconsin.

"Every year we make progress," he said. "There's no reason why anybody in a small town in South Dakota or Mississippi doesn't realize there are plenty of gay people just like them. When I was growing up I didn't know there was such a thing as a gay person."

Those early feelings of isolation affect many older gays even today, Donaldson said.

"A lot of my contemporaries are basically in the closet still because that's the way they grew up. I have a couple of friends who can be quite militant in private, but in public they try to blend in. These people grew up during a time when you went to a gay bar and the bar might get raided, there might be plain-clothed police waiting to entrap you."

"Older gay men are kind of invisible. They don't go out to bars, many of them are not politically active, but they're doing their thing," Donaldson said. "Sometimes I'm amused, I'll be walking down Polk Street and I feel like I'm invisible."

Donaldson's lover of 20 years, Jim Hardcastle, died of bone marrow cancer in 1978.

"I won't say it was love at first sight," Donaldson said. "We started dating, in three months we moved in together and it never entered our minds that we had the option to move out and neither of us wanted to."

Donaldson remembers a different San Francisco when

he arrived here, just out of Stanford Law School, in 1956.

"We hadn't over-developed downtown," he said. "Now our downtown is crammed-packed during the day with workers from high-rises. Market Street used to be such a pleasure to walk on; it's not anymore... we had more capable cars."

But it wasn't all flowers-in-our-hair even then, the judge admits.

"We're always in a stage of evolution," he said. "Viewed in a certain way, San Francisco of 40 years ago was better, but in a lot of respects it's better today. Gay people have real input in city government, we didn't then. We were frozen out. We weren't even recognized as a minority."

"We're a world-oriented

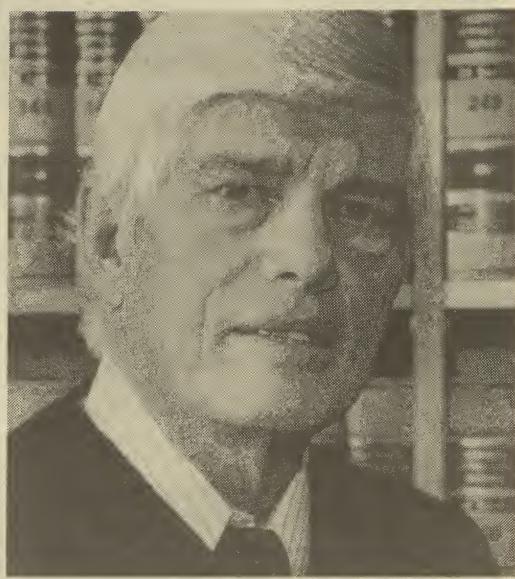
city today. It's tempting to look back on the good ole' days but it's also good to look at yesterday and tomorrow and see what the future holds," Donaldson said. "We can make this city anything we want."

Donaldson is hopeful for the future.

"There are so many of us out and we're not going back in the closet. We're out to stay," he said. "There's no way they can deny us our rights. All we have to do is take action to ensure that we get them. You can't believe, in the last 40 years since I've been in San Francisco, the progress that has happened."

As role models, Donaldson

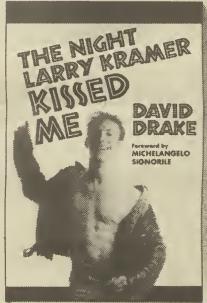
(Continued on page 53)



Judge Herb Donaldson.

(Photo: Darlene Photo/Graphics)

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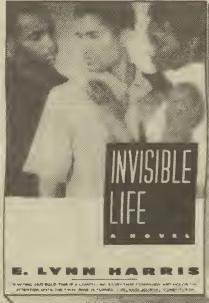
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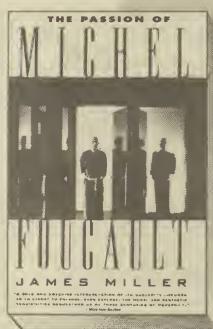
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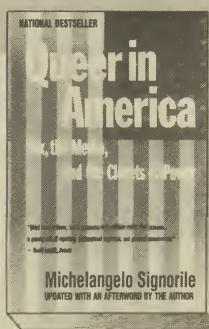
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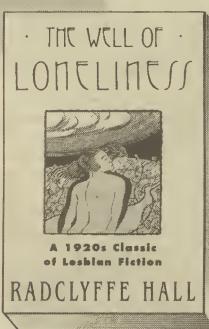
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## Dorr Jones: Linking Families and Remembering Gay Rights Before Stonewall

by Dennis Conkin

Dorr Jones tells a story about a Tennessee couple who came to San Francisco to be with their gay son as he lay dying of AIDS in a local hospital. "They were from the deep hills of Tennessee, and they'd never seen an airport, much less been on an airplane," Jones says. "They had trouble getting on an escalator because they didn't know how it worked. When the bags were delivered on the baggage carousel, they didn't understand how it worked and had trouble getting their baggage. Can you imagine?"

But, Jones said, the couple—the woman in a threadbare and simple cotton print dress that hung down to her ankles and the man decked out in his best pair of blue jeans—loved their son very much and wanted to be with him in his last days.

The mother brought home-baked cookies for her son all the way from Tennessee, brought them on a china plate, wrapped only in a napkin, and carried them in her suitcase.

Her son received the gift and was able to say goodbye to his parents before he died the next day, Jones said.

It's an evocative and compelling true life story about the promise and triumph of family love in the face of enormous tragedy.

But, Jones, executive director of Family Link at 317-19 Castro Street is the first to admit that not all of the stories he has to tell won't always end in such a touching way.

Family Link, a non-profit group, provides a low or no cost place for family members to stay when they come to San Francisco to visit their loved ones who are dying of AIDS.

"It's a supportive place for families. We meet everyone at the airport. The mothers end up sharing a lot and talking together, since they're all going through the same thing," Jones says.

"Many of the people who come have never been in an urban place. The reality of city life is overwhelming. They are faced with a lifestyle they don't have a handle on or approve of," he said.

"A lot of people who come to stay have religious problems. On top of that they have to deal with a deadly disease they don't know anything about, so it can be very frightening and quite a lot for parents and grandparents to cope with," Jones said.

But sometimes, after a lifetime of brutal emotional rejection and hatred by their mothers and fathers, many gay men who are dying of AIDS refuse to have anything to do with their parents, no matter how far they've travelled or how sincerely they may wish to make amends.

"One woman was here for three weeks and she would go to the hospital every day to try to visit her son, but her

son refused to see her. She had hated him for years and years and he wondered why she would want to see him now that he was dying, when she didn't when he was alive. She wasn't able to see him before he died," Jones said.

But he said, in 90 percent of Family Link cases, "people are pleased to be reunited."

Jones, a gerontologist by training, is probably best known as the founding executive director of Meals on Wheels, where he spent 17 years at the helm.

**"I get very upset when people say the lesbian and gay movement started in 1969. It was such a long time before that. There were people pitching in in the 1920s and '30s."**

**- Dorr Jones**

Active in organizations ranging from The National Association of Lesbian and Gay Gerontologists, The Endowment Fund of Coming Home Hospice and a big financial supporter of the Lesbian and Gay Center of The New Main Library, Jones is known to several generations of lesbians and gays for his involvement in Manhattan's Mattachine Society and San Francisco's Society for Individual Rights.

Jones was also a member of Citizen's Alert, a precursor to the famed lesbian and gay police watchdog group Bad Cop No Donut, which kept an eye on San Francisco police in the early and mid-sixties.

"I came to San Francisco just in time to see all sorts of amazing things beginning to happen," Jones recalled. "There was a lot of oppression and harassment. When the police weren't paid off, they'd sit out in front of bars to dissuade people from coming in. There were raids and sure enough, the day after a raid, the daily paper would have the name, address and occupation of those arrested. For those in certain professions, such as teachers, it was pretty much a pink slip." Jones recalled.

It was an era, Jones said, where gay men, afraid of exposure, often used double names to protect their identities, and were known to their gay friends often only by a pseudonym.

"Things were so bad, when I was president of Mattachine in Manhattan, we used to lock the mailing list in a safe deposit box," Jones said. "It was still part of the McCarthy era."

A police raid of a 1964 drag ball sponsored by the Council on Religion and The Homosexual put an end to a lot of that fear, Jones said.

"In my own mind that event is as important as Stonewall. Stonewall's gotten more attention, but the stuff that happened at the CRH ball really turned things around a lot, locally."

With gay lawyers, civil rights and other observers present, dozens of people attending the event were arrested by police. The charges were later tossed out by local courts, who ruled the action was unconstitutional and a violation of civil rights.

The incident galvanized the local lesbian and gay community, Jones remembers.

"We became far more conscious of things, politically. A bunch of us used to meet regularly at Glide Church to see what we could do about police harassment. We developed a volunteer network and staffed a phone around the clock. We came out with a wallet card that we later expanded and people used as a kind of pocket lawyer telling you what to do when you were being harassed or arrested," Jones said.

Jones said that he feels that many young lesbian and gay people don't really have a sense of history about the community.

"I get very upset when people say the lesbian and gay movement started in 1969. It was such a long time before that. There were people pitching in in the 1920s and '30s," he says.



Dorwin Jones.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

And, Jones thinks that gay elders have a lot to learn from emerging lesbian gay youth, but he also believes the reverse is true for youth.

"To say that every older person is simply trying to get into your pants is not exactly an accurate statement," he laughs. "There's a lot of ageism among youth."

But, Jones says, older gay people should just accept that gay youth often choose to identify themselves as queer rather than homosexual.

Jones says that although the gay and lesbian community has made great social advances over the last 25 years, at 60 years of age, he's still deeply worried about how far it has to go.

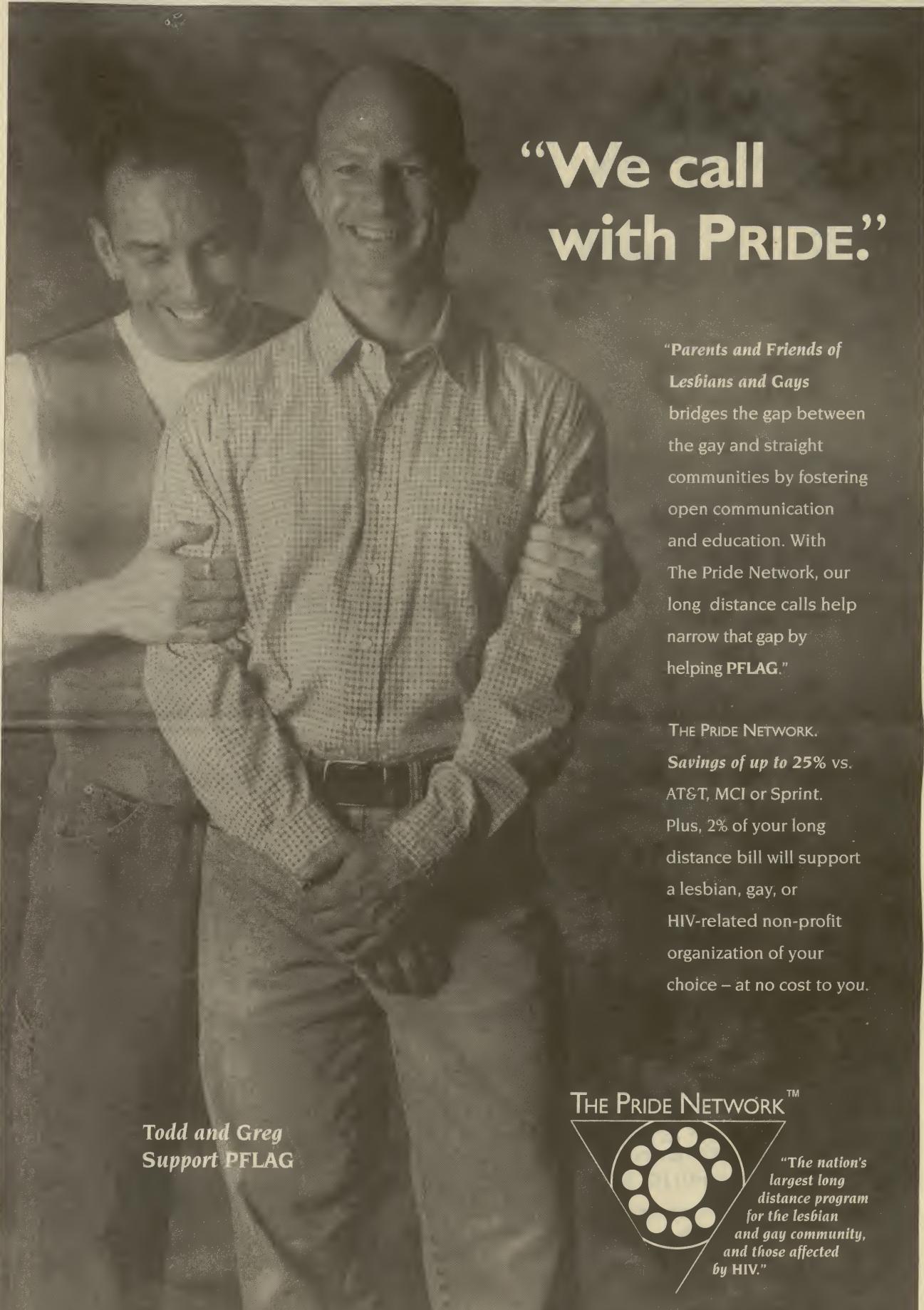
"What really concerns me is the far right. The religious right. You know, Germany in the '30s was way ahead of anything that we've ever accomplished economically or socially. They were far more progressive. Yet Hitler set about destroying us, too. That could still easily happen again if people like Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson and Pat Buchanan had more power," Jones said.

"They still could. We work and work and work and bring about changes in laws for our human rights and then we turn around and have them undone. We get our rights and they take them away. That's so discouraging," Jones said. ▼



Dorwin Jones at the lone remaining arch from the produce district, the location, once, of several gay bars of the 1950's and '60s.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)



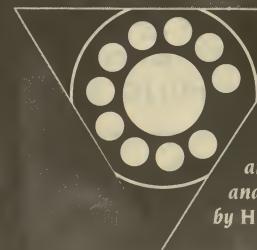
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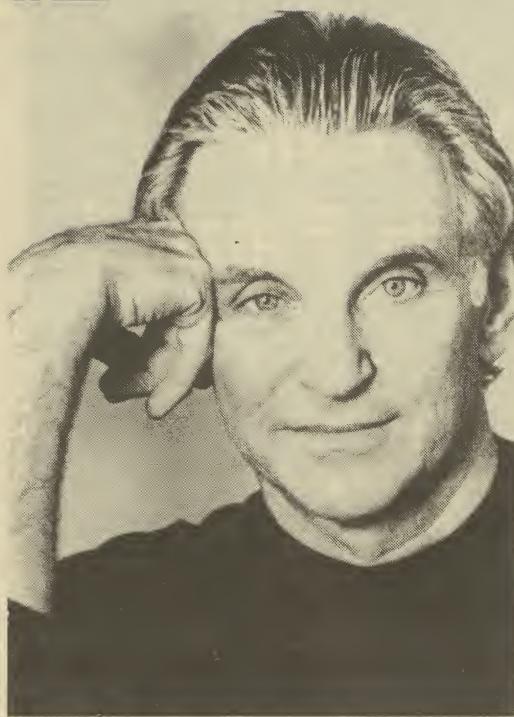


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Martin Duberman

Martin Duberman, Peter Cohen Launch Gay Series

## Duberman: The Prince of Gay Prose

by Brandon Judell

**M**y first meeting with Martin Duberman took place back in the '70s when I was rather young and awkward, both mentally and physically. I had been somehow spirited into a gay political meeting being held at Martin's house, a two-story affair that struck me as rather grand for New York City, a town where folks have to grapple with pigeons for breathing space. I remember there were homosexuals of all sorts up and down the staircase of Martin's place and in the various rooms. Everyone was sipping white wine.

I didn't know much about Martin at that time, except that he taught at my college, Herbert H. Lehman in the Bronx, and that he had written a play or two. Since those days, it's been impossible for anyone hooked into checking out new titles at bookstores not to know of Duberman. Aside from the many articles he'd published in major mag-

azines, there were his books and anthologies, *Male Armor: Selected Plays, 1968-1974* (1976); *Visions of Kerouac* (1977); *About Time: Exploring the Gay Past* (1986); the critically acclaimed bio, *Paul Robeson* (1989); the co-editing of *Hidden from History: Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past* (1989); and *Mother Earth: An Epic Drama of Emma Goldman's Life* (1991).

Then came the riveting *Cures* (1991), a look at the years of therapy Duberman went through to be cured (his own words) of his homosexuality, and then the enormously popular *Stonewall*, a study of six important queer lives and their times, an in-depth look at what made these folks so important to the modern gay movement.

To top it off, this distinguished professor of history at the Graduate Center for the City University of New York is also the Founder and Executive Director of The Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies (CLAGS), the first such academic group in the world. CLAGS's "mission is to sponsor first-rate scholarship and teaching about lesbian and gay history and culture." Their forthcoming October conference, for example, is called "Black Nations/Queer Nations? Lesbian and Gay Sexualities in the African Diaspora." One of the proposed papers being called for: "Building Feminist, Anti-racist, Anti-heterosexist, Anti-imperialist Solidarity Movements."

So with all this firmly packed under his belt, it's no wonder that Chelsea House Publishers in New York picked Duberman to head a \$2 million project to launch a series of books for gay teenagers.

The project: two book series that will comprehensively cover lesbian and gay topics for young adults. The 30-volume *Lives of Notable Gay Men and Lesbians* series will spotlight such notables as Sappho, Walt Whitman, Alvin Ailey, and Willa Cather. The 25-volume *Issues in Gay and Lesbian Life* has such titles as: *Gay Men and Lesbians and Sports: Homophobia*; and *Neither Male or Female: Third Gender Figures*. The writers already signed up include such talents as Terrence McNally, Arnie Kantrowitz, Jewelle Gomez and Bertha Harris. The first book in the series to be published — and already selling well at A Different Light — is the award-winning book *James Baldwin*, by Randall Kenan. The writing is superb and the numerous photographs are top quality.



Brandon Judell: Whose brave idea was it anyway to put out such a terrific series?

I get no credit for it. It was all the idea of Philip Cohen, the owner of Chelsea House Publishers. He called one day

and said, "Our marketing people have discovered that there is nothing out there for young adult gays and lesbians. Which of course, I confirmed. And he asked, 'How would you like to edit these two long series of books?' At first I said no. Like everybody, my plate's too full. I can't possibly and blah blah. But we talked and talked, and he agreed without any trouble that I would not go to young adult writers to do the books, but rather to the leading gay and lesbian writers, activists, and scholars. In other words, in a sense, the best of this generation would be writing for the upcoming one.

"So that really did intrigue me, and Philip also told me that I could have complete control over who was written about — which turns out to be somewhat short of the truth, of course. What actually happens is that we have these endless conferences in which I present possible names and the usual reaction is: 'WHO? Try to remember we have to sell these books!' So, you know, some of my favorite people have not made it yet.

"I also should say from the beginning, Philip Cohen promised that he would fight any political battles that needed to be fought if school boards or libraries got ugly. And I've been hugely impressed. The folks at Chelsea House really are excited and dedicated to this series."

*And there have been battles. Already school-book buyers are writing and threatening to boycott not only the gay titles, but all of Chelsea House's titles. Another wrote in asking, "Will your next series be about notable fat people?"*

"The marketing strategy is not clear to me. What I do is almost solely the editorial side. For example, I don't get involved in the individual contract negotiations. When I talk to somebody and they agree to do a book, I then tell them what little I know about the contract, which is that it's work-for-hire. It's not a royalty position. They're paying somewhere between four and five thousand dollars, a flat fee. But go get the best deal you can get.

"The same thing with marketing. I mean I have no experience in marketing. All Chelsea House publishes are books for young adults, so they have a huge amount of expertise. It isn't clear to me whether they're aiming primarily at school boards or libraries or whether they're aiming at bookstores — or all of them. I think what's happened as the series has developed is that most of the manuscripts, we now have about a dozen in-house, are of such high quality that Chelsea House is very excited about the possibility of marketing them for everybody.

"They are essentially designed for the young adult market, but in many cases, for the very first time in a

*(Continued on next page)*



(Continued from page 52)

hardcover, an author will describe not only the subject's sexuality in some significant detail, but also try to link the sexuality directly with the work. This has rarely been done. In other words, a lot of these books are going to contain new interpretations, if not new archival material. Therefore I think a lot of adults are going to want to read them."

*One controversy that has surrounded the publishing of the books is that some of the individuals written about are clearly gay heroes while others are merely gay. Audre Lord, Harvey Milk and k.d. lang are icons to gays and lesbians because of things they've achieved. But what about Rock Hudson and Liberace?*

"There have been some real tough issues involved in all this. Each book carries the same introduction by me. In that I tried to grapple with a

number of these hard issues like who first of all can we legitimately claim is good or bad? And when you go back roughly before the 1920s, before the categories and the vocabulary were really available, there were very few people who self-identified as gay or lesbian. The terms were barely in currency by the 1920s. And even today, those categories are still pretty much confined to Western Europe and the United States.

"A lot of people, even though their erotic attraction is primarily to their own gender, still don't self-identify as gay or lesbian. In other words, they don't see sexual orientation as the essence of a different category of human being. So it's been hard to make the argument who are we entitled to claim."

"For example, *Willa Cather*, which is the next book out. She burnt all of her personal letters. It seems very clear judging by the outer

contours of her life that she was lesbian. There are no men in her life of any emotional significance. One I think early on. And she lived with the same woman for a long time and so forth. If she thought herself as lesbian, she certainly did not want to publicly claim the category or she wouldn't have burned those letters. Yet we're claiming her in the series, so it is very tricky. I think there is no way to do a historical series, to go back before the 1920s without laying claim to some people who either denied it or were unaware of it."

"There are some people in the series who are not role models, not good guys. Liberace is included because he was the highest paid entertainer in the world at a certain point. He had billions of followers, and fame alone would sort of justify the inclusion. But there was a lot about that man which was wholly unattractive. But if I limited the series

to exemplary human beings, we would have very few. Gay or straight, human beings are not exemplary. Our lives are often distorted by ambition and all the rest of it, especially if you're looking to be famous."

"There's another point about including Liberace. That is to give a few examples of what the oppression actually did to gay men and lesbians. How it resulted in a terrible distortion of personality. I am not willing to go so far as to include a Roy Cohn who was just totally hateful, but I am including Jay Edgar Hoover."

"You can argue that Jay Edgar is no more or less hateful, I suppose, than Roy Cohn. I didn't want to have too many hateful types in the series. Liberace and Jay Edgar Hoover I think are the only ones. Though I threatened for a while to do Cardinal Spellman myself (Laughs). And I might still, who knows? I guess, at the least, I'm making this up

and it's probably not valid, but a young teenager reading about Jay Edgar Hoover could, along with all the horrors of the personality, see somebody capable of building this gigantic organization... a closed gay man capable of building enormous power in Washington and so forth. In those areas at least maybe there'd be something for him or her to identify with. But it's tricky. I mean they were very ugly human beings."

"I once wrote a play about Roy Cohn, not so long ago in fact. About four years ago. Because horrible though he was, I felt this is a generational story. This is what it was like to grow up gay in this oppressive culture in the '40s and '50s. You loathed yourself. You tried to play the macho game if you were capable. You did everything you could to disguise and evade the truth of your own life. And that's part of the story and I think people need to know it." ▼

## Herb Donaldson

(Continued from page 49)



Navy man Herb Donaldson.

cited Martin Luther King Jr. as well as two men he knows who have been a couple for 34 years. "They're so loyal to each other," he said. "In life, it's our personal relationships that are important."

He also holds ACT UP in high regard.



Judge Donaldson today.  
(Photo: Darlene Photo/Graphics)

"ACT UP I admire very much. I believe in activism. I admire actions more than quotations. Sometimes ACT UP can be a pain in the ass, but this is how you get things done. They're not afraid that somehow they'll become unpopular. They're true to themselves." ▼

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Recounting D-Day Adventures with:

## Jose Sarria — The Widow Norton

by Mary Richards

This June, as our nation observes the 50th anniversary of D-Day, it is fitting to remember that World War II has gay veterans who survived to tell their tales. One of those veterans is Jose Sarria, also known as The Widow Norton. At the age of 70, he presides with pride over the Imperial Court of Emperors and Empresses which he founded 30 years ago, and is on his way to the 25th anniversary of Stonewall in New York, where he will be honored for the significant contributions he has made to the gay community.

Every veteran has tales to tell, and Jose is no exception. Perhaps they have never been told because he was so busy singing his version of opera at the infamous Black Cat bar in the '50s, or reigning over a coterie of drag queens which has made San Francisco famous.

His adventure began when Jose was attending college and in the Army Reserves. It was 1944 and the Allied Invasion of Europe was under way. Yanked out of his classroom to go to war, he was assigned to the Third Infantry Regiment, which was called the President's Guard. His unit was the

right flank at the Battle of the Bulge. They marched into Berlin to relieve the 82nd Airborne, and stayed there for three years.

Jose had become proficient as a cook in the Reserves. When he joined the invasion forces his volunteer status insured him the privilege of living with the officers and preparing their food. He wasn't exactly a cook like the martial arts expert in the movie *Under Siege*, but he served a mean meal to hungry officers on their way to victory.

He speaks with real affection about his commander. Now a retired brigadier general, Theodore Mataxis had the respect of his men. "This general believed in leading the troops," Jose recalls, "not sitting up in a command post directing traffic. He never asked his men to do anything that he himself wouldn't do. When we were fighting he ate K-rations just like the enlisted men." On the run through France and Germany, when they could have had hot food, it was often cooked and served in the basements and cellars of the cities they liberated.

### Bad bunny in the garden

In a town on the way to Berlin, the Americans and



Jose Sarria and friend

Germans were camped across from each other, separated by a large field. "In this field," says Jose, "was a garden, and in this garden were all kinds of vegetables. I had already gotten some chickens and I thought, 'Oh, I'm going to make a nice soup and put vegetables in.'"

"So I crawled out and started picking carrots and whatever I could find. All of a sudden the Germans saw me and started to shoot at me. I was pinned down and I didn't have my rifle with me, and I was using my helmet to put the

vegetables in. So the First Sergeant looked out and said, 'Oh, Jesus!' He told the Colonel I was pinned under fire and I couldn't get back. The Colonel said, 'What the hell is he doing?' The answer: 'Well, he went out there to get something to fix a hot dinner.'

They called for heavy fire to be directed to the post and Jose scrambled back to safety. "When I got back," he says, "I got bailed out. Number one, where was my weapon? Well, I didn't need a Goddamn weapon to gather vegetables. Why did I do it? Because I thought it would be nice. The Colonel said, 'You, of all people! You should set an example — you're my boy. We are in a war and you cannot leave your weapon wherever you think you're going to leave it!' So he took it and tied it to my body, and I had to wear the thing around for a week — to the lavatory, everywhere."

### Count your chickens

Jose recounts his problems with keeping food available for hungry men on the move. "I had my own chickens," he says. "I made a cage and put it on top of the jeep. I had a nice little stove and tied it on the back of the jeep. Whenever we could stop, I would kill a chicken or two to cook."

The Army would travel, get information and fight. When they were on the roads, Jose recalls, "You had to have a certain space between trucks. They had to be clean — it was not a matter of everything going to hell. Nothing could be dangling outside the trucks. So we were moving and here comes my jeep with chickens and a stove." General Hodge was in command of the movement, and as Jose recalls, "The General was beside himself. 'What is that? That looks like a migration of Oakies to California!' He said, 'I want that to cease!' So we got word that I had to get rid of everything. I said I'm not going to! So I traded by jeep for the use of a two-and-a-half ton truck and put everything inside. But I did not get rid of my chickens!"

### A cat with nine lives

When Jose came back to the States after World War II, he returned to California. It was here in San Francisco that he began performing at a bohe-

mian bar in North Beach called the Black Cat. He had a trained voice, had sung in a choir, and he was gay. Sol Stouman, who owned the bar, recognized a fledgling star when he saw one, and put Jose to work greeting patrons and entertaining. Before long, Jose would become known throughout the city for his parodies of famous operas.

"People who were opera buffs found this to be very clever," Jose recalls. "My death scenes were so dramatic that they would cry 'Encore' and then I would have to die again. I would die several times. Then they would present me with vegetables and dead flowers."

"I never performed outside The Black Cat. I created a character like the '20s of Hollywood. I never went out of the house without makeup. My eyebrows were plucked nicely, and I had my makeup on no matter where I went."

In the early '60s, gay people became bolder about expressing themselves. One of the boldest was Jose, who decided to adopt a persona intertwined with the character of Joshua Norton, a beloved San Francisco personality. Norton had declared himself Emperor of the city, and throughout the latter years of his life was honored as such by its citizens.

"I needed to be accepted by the people of San Francisco as well as by the gay community," Jose recalls. "The people already accepted the Emperor, Joshua. So I come along and declare myself his widow, The Empress Norton I. San Francisco accepted me in this new character role, and then I had a reason to make a Court system."

The Imperial Court of Emperors and Empresses is now in its 30th year, with similar courts throughout the country. Aside from the spectacle and theatrics of Court presentations, it was set up for a purpose.

"The purpose was a fund-raising, charitable organization to benefit the place where you live and to be a part of the community," Jose explains. "It was to bring the gay people out and make them realize that you have to be part of a community."

### Museum quality

Some of Jose's costumes from previous lives are at the Oakland Museum in the 20th Century display. When the head of the Oakland Museum went to the Smithsonian for meetings to discuss a costume exhibit they were preparing, she thought of Jose. "She brought some things of mine to show them," he says. "She was very excited, because they want to have some of my stuff. So when I went to the National March I was invited by the Smithsonian to be their VIP guest. Well, did I get a treat! They now want my political things, which, of course, will be there for everybody to see. I was wined in their private dining room, and treated handsomely."

(Continued on page 57)

## ▼ CLEAN & SOBER PRIDE WEEKEND

### TIPS FOR THE WEEKEND

- Hang with your clean & sober friends.
- Carry phone numbers, especially your sponsor's or counselor's.
- It's OKAY to leave or take a break from it all! It CAN be overwhelming!!!
- You probably can't see or do it ALL, so don't try to.
- Eat breakfast, Eat lunch, Eat dinner. REST.
- Plan a 12 step meeting to START your weekend with.
- Plan a 12 step meeting to END your weekend with.
- A safe, social place to chill is the Castro Country Club, 4058 18th Street.
- COMMIT! You CAN do this clean and sober AND have fun.

### SUNDAY LESBIAQ MEETINGS

7 am	623 O'Farrell	AA
8 am	2185 Market (B)	AA
10:30 am	2185 Market (B)	NA
10:30 am	623 O'Farrell	AA
11 am	150 Eureka St.	AA
11:30 am	2185 Market (A)	AA
12 pm	623 O'Farrell	AA
1 pm	2185 Market (A)	NA
2 pm	150 Eureka	AA
4 pm	2185 Market (A)	AA
4:30 pm	401 Van Ness	AA
5:30 pm	623 O'Farrell	AA
6 pm	2750 Geary, 2nd Fl.	AA
6 pm	2185 Market (A)	AA
6 pm	2185 Market (B)	NA
8 pm	2185 Market (A)	AA
8 pm	953 DeHaro	AA
8 pm	2185 Market (B)	NA
8 pm	623 O'Farrell	AA
8:15 pm	150 Eureka	AA
8:30 pm	261 Fell St.	AA
8:30 pm	1668 Bush @ Gough	AA
10 pm	2185 Market (A)	AA

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HIV LINEA NOCTURNA  
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SF AIDS FOUNDATION TRI-LINGUAL HOTLINE  
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Schools, Politics, the Future

## BAYMEC Vet Ken Yaeger

by Marv. Shaw

Ever since his undergraduate days at San Jose State in the '70's, South Bay dynamo Ken Yeager has achieved enviable political success. Now, in the midst of a term as trustee in the Evergreen Community College District, he is still in the fray and about to get gay rights into college study. He recently talked with the *B.A.R.* about politics, education, and his commitment to both.

With BAYMEC (Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee) nearing its tenth anniversary, Yeager, as co-founder with San Jose State professor/activist Wiggy Sivertsen, turned his thoughts first to that organization.

"To me," he said thoughtfully, the access BAYMEC has to all South Bay elected officials indicates to our contributors that their donations over the years have paid high dividends. Many PACs give money to politicians, but few are on a first-name basis with all the recipients. We have an excellent working relationship with almost all locally elected officials and can count on them to support fairness and equity for gays and lesbians.

"For me, the past ten years have been rewarding. Even though I left the BAYMEC board last year because of time restraints, I am confident that the organization is as strong as ever and will continue to play a vital role in the politics of the Bay Area."

When Yeager was a senior at San Jose State, he interned at San Jose City Hall with Councilwoman Susie Wilson one semester and ran her reelection campaign for precinct operation the following semester. That was his kick-off.

Then from 1983 to 1985, he was the press secretary for Representative Don Edwards in Washington, D.C. When he got the news that Edwards was retiring from politics, Yeager said, "I was very sorry to hear it. He was a champion for civil rights for everyone, and I mean everyone."

Yeager left Edwards' office to attend graduate school at Stanford, where he earned an M.A. in education, and later, an M.A. in sociology. His matriculation at The Farm concluded with his being awarded a Ph.D in education in 1991.

### Coalition builder

The high point in his career was when he entered the November 1992 election — he ran for a trustee's post in the Evergreen Community College District — and came in a winner, the first openly gay person to win elective office in Santa Clara County!

Yeager's accumulation of shrewd experience with BAYMEC is reflected in his answer to a question on how he looked at the recall of Kathy Coles, who alienated herself from minority groups, which includes gays, in city government when she delivered a tirade against them. Calling Mexican-Americans "pit bulls" is a sample. "There are three lessons to be learned from the Kathy Coles recall: build coalitions, build coalitions, build coalitions. It must be remembered that coalitions aren't created overnight. It takes years to build up trust. BAYMEC has been working with community leaders from minorities for years, and it paid off."

On the same subject, Yeager recounted how he recently conducted a fundraiser for Assemblwoman Delaine Eastin, who is running for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He got as many



Ken Yaeger.

groups as he could involved. Working together, the combination raised \$7,000 for the Eastin campaign. "I've known Delaine for fifteen years, and she's great on education issues and is aware of the needs of gay and lesbian kids."

### Wants more gay studies

Asked what the best steps would be to help gay and lesbian students, Yeager's reply was immediate and sharp: "The best way to help gay and lesbian college students is for gay and lesbian teachers and staff to come out. The situation is ludicrous at San

Jose State. As of now, Wiggy Sivertsen is teaching the only gay-oriented course (Sociology of Homosexuality) on campus. That will change next semester when Ricardo Ortiz will teach a gay literature course, and I will teach a gay politics course. Those steps should pave the way for more openness on campus."

On a broader scale, Yeager had this to say about increased involvement in the schools: "Gays and lesbians must get involved in every aspect of education, be it K-12, two-year colleges, or four-year colleges."

"On the community college level, I'm doing all I can to make sure all our students get the services they need. I want to make sure our campuses are inclusive of all people. That's why the district took its money out of the Bank of America. We have a booth at San Jose Gay Pride Day."

Of his own political future, Yeager is uncertain. "I'll have to wait and see what happens next year. Because of term limits, Assemblman Don Cortese cannot run again, so his seat is a possibility."

His BAYMEC co-founder Wiggy Sivertsen is prepared to pound the campaign drum for such a possibility! ▀

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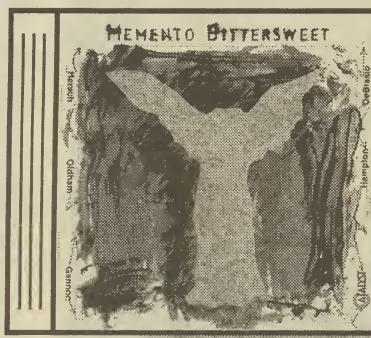
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# Climbing Every Mountain

## GCHP Celebrates Five Years of Service

by Doug Seto

The GAPA Community HIV Project (GCHP), which celebrated its fifth anniversary this month, was the first organization in the United States to provide a spectrum of direct services for gay Asians and Pacific Islanders. One of few American AIDS services serving a specifically Asian clientele, GCHP (pronounced "Gee-Chip"), has experienced enormous growth.

"In 1989, GCHP began with a one-and-a-half person staff," says Steven Lew, Executive Director of GCHP. "Now we have expanded to 23 [paid] workers."

But GCHP's five-year climb was rocky. There were cultural barriers that had to be crossed. Several valuable staff members have since died of AIDS.

"We continue to move the mountains inspired by the spirit, courage and strength of those who have gone before us," Lew said, referring to the theme of the group's recent anniversary reception, which was held June 2 in the Chapel at Park Hill, near the scenic Buena Vista Park. The space was appropriate, since their retrospective's theme was

"Moving Mountains."

During its five-year history, the GAPA Community HIV Project has provided: Case management for people with HIV; emergency financial assistance; HIV treatment advocacy; direct support volunteers; and, educational, recreational and support services.

GCHP's clientele have special needs that other organizations can't provide. Sixty percent of the visitors are recent immigrants who do not speak English, so GCHP provides services such as treatment, counseling and treatment advocacy in Cambodian, Cantonese, Mandarin, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

GCHP case workers are trained to be sensitive to understand the insecurities many immigrants, especially those with HIV, face in America. Shy persons may enter the GCHP building on 1841 Market Street by a back entrance that leads to an elevator. The waiting room lounge provides a sunny view, books, backgammon, a TV/stereo system, and even an altar for burning incense. If that's not enough to coax them in, the GCHP will send a staff member to a client's home if re-



GAPA Community HIV Project.

quested.

The B.A.R. asked Lew if there have been any clashes with the traditional leadership of the Asian community. He said, "a lot of people in our community don't see how AIDS travails in their lives." And according to GCHP's five year retrospective report, many Asians and Pacific Islanders with HIV become ostracized from their family circle.

In response, GCHP "adopts" the outcasts by offering support and attempting to repair broken family ties. Peot Lakhana, a lesbian case manager for GCHP, helps mend these lost relationships:

"I have 20 clients. I take them to hospitals, visit their homes and tell them how to get case money," said Lakhana, who fled the Khmer Rouge in 1975. Even though Lakhana escaped the "Killing Fields," she still sees people dying, but this time it's here in America.

In 1993, GCHP launched its Visibility Campaign for Sexual Diversity Awareness and HIV Education, which aimed to overcome the Asian community's silence and negative attitudes concerning internal sexual diversity by reaching out to classrooms, Asian newspapers, temples and churches.

In addition, GCHP has taken on the responsibility of educating the Asian community and helped it out in many ways.

For instance, many Chinese stopped eating in Chinatown because they feared catching AIDS from dirty chopsticks. GCHP helped

stop this unfounded worry by utilizing the media. Other prevention and educational projects include workshops, peer counseling, health education, gay/lesbian outreach and many community events.

"If I can move or help just one person, then I've moved mountains," said GCHP member, Steve Higa.

The GAPA Community Health Project has an annual budget of \$700,000 from both government and private funding. In 1993, they received nearly \$280,000 in federal grants, \$168,000 in city grants, and the remainder of their income through private grants, fundraising and donations.

Many of the fundraisers are coordinated with the creative arts branches of GAPA, from their hula dance groups, to a choir and even an outrageous giant red high-heeled shoe float in last year's Gay & Lesbian Freedom Day Parade. The connection between creative groups and the HIV service groups is a strong bond which helps to make for more unity in the gay Asian community.

Additional information is available at (415) 575-3939. ▼

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# Ding-Hao Ma: Healing Through Movement

by Doug Seto

In 1987, Ding-Hao Ma joined Frontrunners, a gay/lesbian organization for joggers, and raised \$2500 for people with AIDS by running 120 miles in one month. Later, in recognition of the importance of complementing western medicine, the Gapa Community HIV Project called upon Ma's time and knowledge in tai-chi and qi gong to help its clients reduce stress and increase immune functioning.

"I have seen diabetics [in Hong Kong] live drug-free because of tai-chi and qi gong," says Ma. "I believe the same results can be achieved for people with HIV/AIDS."

Ma told the B.A.R. that he learned these gentle martial art forms in Hong Kong. Qi gong differs from tai-chi, mainly because being a form of meditation, it utilizes less movement. Mastering this art-form can prove most vital for people with HIV and AIDS.

But they must first realize that "students need discipline and patience, because it is not something anyone can learn overnight," Ma said. "Some tai-chi forms take up to one half-hour to complete."

Ma believes that qi gong and tai-chi help people live with HIV/AIDS as a communicable manageable disease because it activates the internal chi, the vital energy that travels throughout the body, and helps people learn how to properly relax and deal with stress.

John Edmiston, a San Francisco man with HIV, is one of Ma's students. Every weekday morning they practice tai-chi and qi gong together in Dolores Park.

"I really depend on it [tai-chi and qi gong] for coping with HIV," said Edmiston.

Mr. Ma immigrated from China 18 years ago and believes it isn't important for anybody, gay or straight, to reveal one's sexuality, because it shouldn't matter what

anybody is.

"The only difference between gays and straights is what we do in bed," Ma insisted.

As for relationships, he is not seeing anyone on a steady basis. "It's by my own karma that I don't have one," he said.

His favorite quote is "positive and harmony," something he wrote himself and his father is and always will be his favorite role model because "he was understanding, spiritual and tranquil."

Ma's father asked, shortly before passing away, why his son remained single. Ma assured his father that he may soon find a lifetime companion. His father asked simply because he feared his son would live a lonely life.

When asked if electing a gay candidate is more important than a good, smart, straight ally, Ma replied, "It doesn't matter," he answered. "As long as he believes in justice and human compassion. ▼



Ding-Hao Ma.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)



Ding-Hao Ma does his daily workout of Tai-chi and Qi gong with fellow practitioner John Edmiston.  
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

## Jose Sarria

(Continued from page 54)

We could not end this look at the past without asking what advice Jose Sarria might have for the future. "For the young gay and lesbian," he responds, "the most important thing is that you accept and realize what you are. You cannot go out in this world not knowing who you are and accepting that fact. You cannot live a sham, you cannot be gay and live in the closet — that is number one. And you have to take the time, I think, to realize just

where it started. I didn't start with you coming out of the closet. It started a long time ago. A lot of people have gone to jail, a lot of people have died, a lot of people have suffered, to make it easy today."

In New York City on Saturday, June 25, a candlelight ceremony will be held at the site of The Stonewall Inn, where gay liberation was born. Jose will be there, to remember the past and to look to the future, with countless other men and women who share the heritage of a proud and united community. ▼

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## Conservative Jews Open Up To Their Gay Faithful

by Kimberly Griffin

In what it calls the first report of its kind by any branch of Judaism on the subject, a group of Conservative Jewish rabbis released a study last month on sexuality and its relation to the Jewish faith, standing by its position against the "homosexual lifestyle" but at the same time reiterating its commitment to civil rights protections for gays and lesbians.

Compiled by the New York City-based Rabbinical Assembly's Commission on Human Sexuality, the report, entitled "This is My Beloved, This is My Friend: A Jewish Pastoral Letter on Human Sexuality," was presented to members of the assembly at a conference last week in New York's Catskill Mountains, where it was "well received," outgoing RA President Rabbi Gerald Zelizer told *Windy City Times*.

The report, which will now be passed on to the assembly's Law Committee for consideration beginning this fall, addresses a wide range of topics concerning sexuality in modern times, offering guidance to the assembly's 1,500 member rabbis, representing 1.5 million members of Conservative Jewish congregations. A great deal of the report is devoted to the question of sex outside of marriage, but the last fourth of the document centers around an issue that has been the cause of great debate within Conservative Judaism for years: homosexuality.

Steven Joachim, president of Or Chadash, a Reform Jewish congregation in Chicago with a special outreach to the gay and lesbian community, said after reading the report that it reflects "definite movement and progress."

The 12 members of the sexuality commission urged the Law Committee—a group of 24 Jewish leaders and scholars to whom rabbis look for guidance in interpreting the *Torah*—to reconsider Conservative Judaism's position on gay and lesbian members. The commission, while holding up heterosexual mar-

riage as the ideal, recommends that single heterosexual Jews follow the same moral standards regarding sexual behavior as are prescribed for married couples, and suggests gay and lesbian Jews do the same.

"... We have many people who are single and others who are openly homosexual, [and] we affirm their value as human beings and as Jews and earnestly want to involve them in the Conservative Movement," the commission's epilogue states. "To make that happen, we have resolved to take positive steps to make them feel welcome in our synagogues and other institutions."

Rabbi Zelizer is quick to point out that the commission's report is far from binding Jewish law; rather, it is initial guidance for the Law Committee to take into account when framing official positions on sexuality, which even then in the non-hierarchical Jewish faith are only *va'ah*—rabbis are free to make decisions for their own congregations without any guidance from the Law Committee scholars.

The committee will soon be tackling the recommendations put forth in the sexuality report, whose suggestions for synagogues include meeting with gay and lesbian Jews "to put a face to this issue"; creating a program for gays and lesbians and their families, but also integrating them into the ongoing activities of the congregation; implementing a section on sexuality in school and synagogue curricula that would include gay and lesbian issues; and organizing social action programs to advance civil protections for gays and lesbians.

The Law Committee, Zelizer said, will now be charged with the task of helping "resolve the tension between maintaining the classical prohibition against homosexuality and on the other hand being open to a policy on gays and lesbians."

Based on his experience within Reform Judaism, which for several years has allowed openly gay and lesbian



Seder in the home of Jonathan Katz and Irwin Keller (rear).

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

rabbinical students and welcomes openly gay congregation members, Or Chadash's Joachim views this report as the beginning of a "five-year window of opportunity."

Following that timetable, Joachim predicts, "Before the year 2000, Conservative Judaism will accept gays and lesbians in their congregations, in the rabbinate, invest them as cantors and perform commitment ceremonies."

But Zelizer is not so optimistic, particularly on what he calls the "macro issue" of ordaining openly gay and lesbian rabbis. "I have heard no significant opinion in the Rabbinical Assembly that would change the issue of gays being allowed in rabbinical school," Zelizer said.

But regarding the "micro issues" of welcoming non-celibate gays and lesbians and even including them in traditional ceremonies, the outlook appears a little brighter.

"The mood at our convention among proponents and opponents is that this is a fine pastoral letter and a good basis to begin discussion," Zelizer said.

Joachim expressed one concern with the Conserva-

tive Movement's stated position in the sexuality report is that the acceptance of the "homosexual lifestyle" without recommended standards for member rabbis and congregations to follow.

While the commission took a big step in suggesting guidance for heterosexual singles, it ventured into far more controversial territory in dealing with homosexuality, Rabbi Zelizer said.

"The issue of homosexuality, because you have a clear biblical prohibition against it, is more sensitive to the traditional movement than the issue of nonmarital sex," he said.

The commission on sexuality was created two years ago in part to address a growing philosophical rift within the Rabbinical Assembly, and a divide within the Law Committee on the issue of homosexuality.

In 1990, the 24-member Law Committee arrived at two distinct opinions on homosexuality (an opinion is formed when at least six members endorse it). One group of leaders stood by the traditional position that homosexuality is an abomination, and that gays and lesbians should strive for celibacy. Under their view, commitment ceremonies for same-sex couples should not be performed and "sexually active" gays and lesbians should not be ordained as rabbis or invested as cantors.

But another group within the Law Committee, the most outspoken of whom was Elliott Dorff (who went on to write this most recent pastoral letter), believed that "recommending celibacy for homosexuals is... cruel and, moreover, not in accord with classical Jewish views of the body and sexuality as God's gift whose legitimate pleasures it is a sin to deny."

Some members of this group advocated for commitment ceremonies and for acceptance of open gays and lesbians to rabbinical school.

In light of the opposition

within the Law Committee, the Rabbinical Assembly suspended action on the matter until further study was completed. In the meantime, Zelizer said, with no specific guidance from the movement on matters concerning homosexual couples—such concerns as whether to perform the custom of *kreiah*, tearing the surviving spouse's garment in mourning, after a gay or lesbian partner has died, or whether to treat same-sex parents the same as heterosexual parents at *bar/bat mitzvah* would undermine the family, thereby reducing the population of Jews.

"Regardless of whether various movements accept or reject our lifestyle, the number of Jews as a percentage of the U.S. population is decreasing," Joachim said, citing a drop from the 3 percent figure he learned growing up in the 1960s to the current 2.5 percent.

"I don't think any movement can afford to have a position that excludes people who are Jewish and want to practice Judaism," said Joachim. For example, 18 years into their relationship, his life partner decided last year to become a "Jew by choice," Joachim said, completing his studies this past January.

"The fact is," Joachim said, "it's important to create environments where people who are from any walk of life have the opportunity to be Jewish and choose Judaism."

For Jews who often face a three-step coming-out process in their lives—coming out as Jewish to non-Jews, then coming out as gay or lesbian to those who are not, and finally coming out as a Jew who is gay or lesbian, the Rabbinical Assembly's recent recommendations on sexuality could help make integration easier, said Joachim, who himself was raised in a Conservative congregation.

"It's very encouraging," said Joachim, who recently accepted an offer to join the Reform Movement's new task force on gay and lesbian inclusion. He will attend his first task force meeting next month. ▼



Participants in the Lesbian and Gay Jewish Conference break bread before their dinner/dance.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

# James Baker: Making the Personal Political

by David O'Connor

James Baker may have lost a battle in his failed bid for Sonoma County Supervisor June 7, but he believes he's winning the war.

In announcing his candidacy a year ago, Baker said he aimed to increase public awareness of people with AIDS.

"People with AIDS and HIV are in all fields of work and should be in politics as well," said Baker, who was diagnosed with AIDS because of his low T-cell count when the disease's definition was expanded last year. "By running for office, I hoped to increase awareness that there are many people with AIDS and HIV who are capable. I've already won because I did that the first day."

As an AIDS commissioner in Sonoma County — the hardest hit rural county in America — Baker helps allocate federal funds and advise supervisors on AIDS issues.

He also is program director of People With AIDS/HIV Worksource, a job placement program. Baker has a Ph.D. in sociology and writes the column, "Rethinking AIDS," in *We The People*, a lesbian and gay newspaper in Sonoma County.

Through his column, Baker said, he offers "alternative views that I hope are gaining popularity."

"The established AIDS community sees me as a threat, which they should," he said. "We all have different

**"We've got government for special interests and for politicians, not government for the people."**

James Baker

perspectives and we all need to be heard."

"We're in worse shape now than when we began, using drugs that claim to extend life but are not really working. People who live longer

are using alternative therapies. The AIDS establishment doesn't want to admit that they've made a mistake. Within five years there will be a different approach to AIDS."

Besides his work and political pursuits, Baker faces AIDS at home. His own health is good but Baker cares for his lover of 10 years, Jeffrey Boggs, who has been in-and-out of the hospital since having brain surgery last January.

"He's a tough cookie," Baker said of his partner. "It's a day-to-day process. I'm thankful that he's here. I'll miss him terribly when he's gone."

Baker moved from Texas to Los Angeles in 1967 to pursue a career in dancing and acting. He moved north in 1975 and has lived in the Bay Area ever since.

His activism started in New Orleans where he organized a rights march in 1969. Now 49 years old, Baker said he has been out of the closet since he was 17.

As role models in his life, Baker named Housing and Urban Development official Roberta Achtenberg as well as John F. Kennedy, "for his charisma and what he stood for. He inspired me way back. I always wanted to run



James Baker.

for office but wasn't sure the timing was right," Baker said while voters were at the polls last week. "I'm not sure the timing is right now but ..."

Baker said he doesn't see himself as a role model, but hopes he can inspire other gay men and people with AIDS. And he plans to stay active in politics.

"I have good health and

plan to keep living," he said.

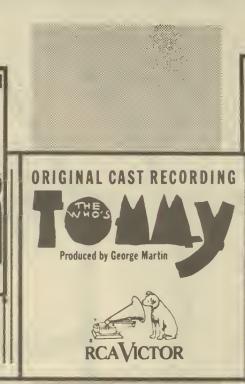
"Everyone's talking about reinventing government," he said. "I'm not for reinventing government, but returning to government. We've got government for special interests and for politicians — not government for the people. If we can get back to electing politicians that truly represent people, we can see change." ▼

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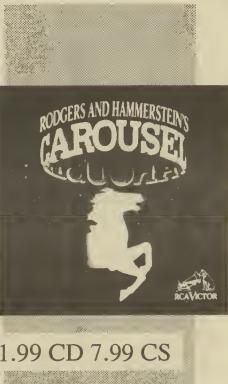
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NUNSENSE 2  
UNIVERSITY OF CA, BERKELEY (QUEERS AT CAL. BERK.)  
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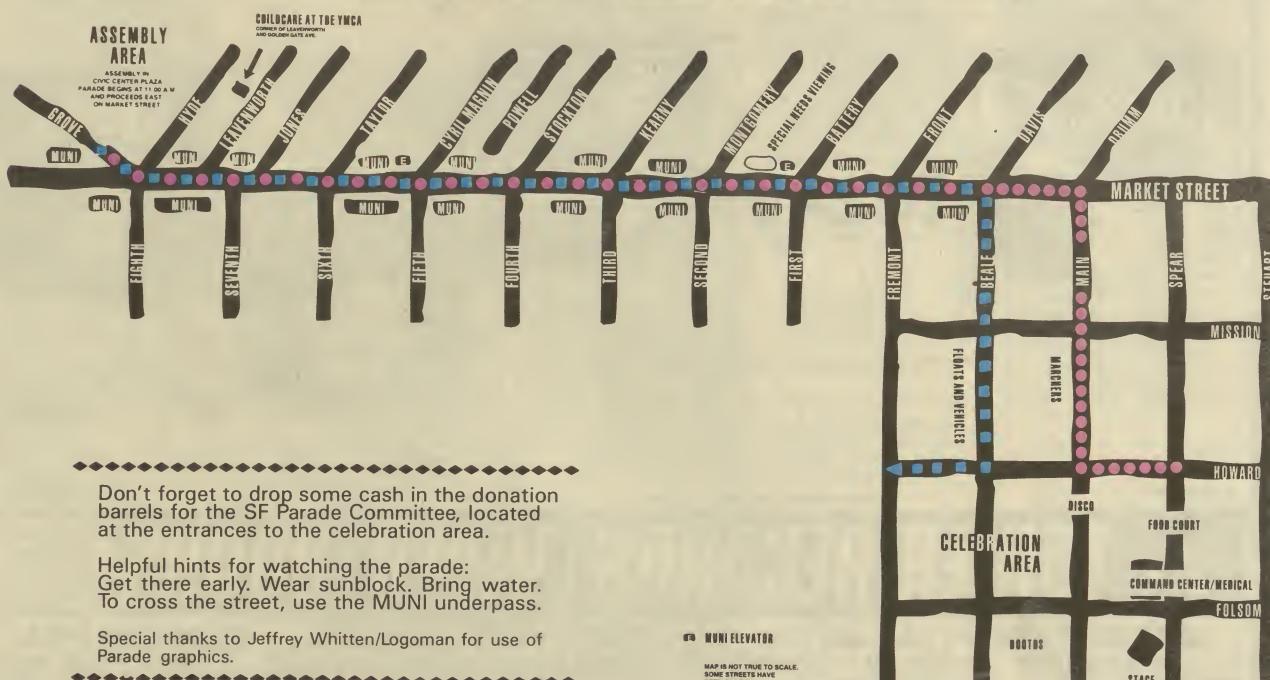


(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

## What's On Stage

The talented performers and speakers on the celebration stage range from rockin' queer bands to glorious choirs, local lesbian politicians to world-famous authors. Here's a final list, subject to change, and delay, of course.

- 11am- MCs D. Hockins and D. Willis
- 11:05- Stone Fox (rock band)
- 11:22- Robbie D. (performance singer)
- 11:34- Bucktooth Varmints (dyke-abilly)
- 11:50- Valerie Stadler (grunge rock)
- 12:08- Peter Barkley
- 12:20- Ken Bukowski (speaker, community center)
- 12:25- World Unite Now (electronic dance)
- 12:40- MCs Empress Anita Martini & Jose Sarria
- 12:45- Helen Ruvelas (speaker)
- 12:50- Out Band (country western)
- 1:12- Armistead Maupin (author, Grand Marshal)
- 1:21- MCC Choir
- 1:38- Elected Officials
- 1:44- Sista Monica Band (R&B)
- 2:06- Screaming Divas
- 2:16- MCs Ken McPherson & Val Keenan
- 2:38- Adele Bertei (dyke disco diva)
- 2:55- Lani Ka'ahumanu (bisexual activist, Grand Marshal)
- 3:04- LZ Love (drag disco diva)
- 3:21- Two elected officials
- 3:27- Mark Davis
- 3:44- Riot Going On (hip hop)
- 4:06- Blacktown's Marion Riggis tribute (singer)
- 4:13- MCs Joan Jett Blakk & Mimi=Free
- 4:18- Hail Marys (rock)
- 4:40- Rainbeau (exotic dancer)
- 4:52- Deborah Oakley-Melvin, Stonewall 25 (speaker)
- 4:57- Tribe 8 (dyke rock band)
- 5:19- Pussy Tourette
- 5:39- Closing remarks



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## Del Martin & Phyllis Lyon: The Ever Dynamic Duo

by Erin Blackwell

Del Martin, 73, and Phyllis Lyon, 69, are lesbian national treasures who don't mind being admired as long as they're not relegated to the distant past. These sequoias of dyke-dom have lived, loved and been active together in the fight for lesbian and gay liberation for over 41 years. From the founding of the first national lesbian organization, the Daughters of Bilitis, in 1955, to the speech they'll give at this Saturday's dyke rally, Del and Phyllis have committed themselves to making the world safe for lesbian desire. The best way to thank them is to bring them flowers and to take up the fight.

*EB: Is it meaningful for you that besides gay pride, there will also be a second annual dyke march?*

*PL: We're in favor of dyke visibility however and wher-*

ever and whenever we get it. Right?

*DM: We haven't had enough acknowledgement of lesbians in this city.*

*EB: When I mentioned the dyke march to a gay male, he immediately saw it as being separatist.*

*DM: They have been so separatist and sexist over the years, it's just crazy. There have been bars that won't admit lesbians, but then when we had a lesbian bar, they came in and said we were separatist, while they had all these bars to choose from. We go through all this fade of lesbian and gay, and it's very separatist on their part—not ours—and has been since the 50s.*

*EB: Do you identify as butch and femme?*

*DM: No. Well, I guess we did in the 50s.*

*PL: (laughs) Del decided that she was a butch before*

*she even met me. So when I met her, it obviously seemed I had to be a femme if she was a butch, right? And that's about as far as it ever went.*

*EB: Young women today seem to have a sort of nostalgia for those roles.*

*DM: That's cool.*

*PL: Whatever turns you on.*

*DM: Just don't say that everybody has to act alike, dress alike.*

*PL: That's what happened in the '70s. There was suddenly this politically correct conformism that was totally contrary to everything we had ever fought for, which was to give people choices.*

*DM: We're non-conformist as far as established society goes and we're certainly non-conformist to any ways of trying to pin us down, in roles or whatever.*

*PL: Everybody has a right to do their own thing. However they want to do it. As long as they're not hurting anybody.*

*EB: It doesn't sound as if you've gotten more conservative as you, um, approach the sunset years.*

*PL: (laughs) I don't think we have. I don't think we've ever been conservative.*

*EB: How long have you been together?*

*PL: Forty-one years, plus.*

*EB: Have you lived together all that time?*

*PL & DM: Uh-hum.*

*EB: And have you been monogamous all that time?*

*PL & DM: Uh-hum.*

*EB: Forty-one years of monogamy?*

*PL: It takes a lot of energy and time to have affairs and we were always pretty busy.*

*EB: Can you talk about forming the Daughters of Bilitis?*

*PL: We moved in together, on Castro Street, in 1953. And we didn't know any lesbians. We met this lesbian who just happened to be one of the six*



Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin.

women that were talking about doing this secret social club for lesbians. She called us and asked us if we wanted to be involved. That was in September of 1955. And we, of course, said, Yes! Because immediately we were meeting five lesbians we hadn't met before. Okay? Which expanded our social circle immensely. And that's how Daughter of Bilitis got started.

*DM: In 1956 we started publishing *The Ladder*. By 1960 we held the first national lesbian conference at a downtown hotel in San Francisco.*

*PL: At that point we became a national organization. We chartered chapters in New York and Chicago and Los Angeles.*

*EB: Lesbians today don't necessarily have to be active in political or social groups.*

*DM: There are a lot of people who are taking advantage of what has happened in the past and not being active today.*

*PL: And they're going to be in deep doo-doo. (laughs) If they don't start getting organized.*

*DM: We grew up in the Roosevelt era, which made a lot of difference, and had Eleanor as a role model. And that had a lot of influence on us. In the '50s, when we were facing being "illegal, immoral and sick", we took up those three issues that were keeping us down. And we dealt with changing the laws. We dealt with being guinea pigs for research on lesbians. What was the other one?*

*PL: We finally got involved with the damn church.*

*DM: We were very much involved in Council on Religion and the Homosexual. (Continued on next page)*

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Grand gathering: (from left to right) Lenore Chin, Leonard Graff, Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin.

Artistic Director and Playwright Ellen Gavin

## Bustling Brava!

by Jerry Metzker

**T**he halls of this former paper factory on Bryant Street in the Mission echo with the voices of young and old, Latina and African-American, gay and straight. They are constantly in motion, going into class, coming out of class, rehearsing, and discussing ideas. Welcome to Brava! For Women in the Arts, where amidst all the bustle sits Ellen Gavin, lesbian, playwright and artistic director.

"It's so exciting now to be at Brava," she says. "Dozens of people come in and out. There are constant classes, workshops, showcases. There's so much writing and performance going on — it's astounding."

Separating Gavin the artistic director from Gavin the person and even Gavin the artist is difficult because her art and all her activities are somehow connected with her life. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, she admits to having been politically active in those days. "I was president of the student body, I organized a food co-op, I started bookstores, and I founded a shelter for battered women," she reveals, but eventually all the pressure finally got to her. She decided to work on herself.

"I came out in 1975 and '76, and moved to San Diego for a break, to get in shape and enjoy the sun!" Always on the lookout for a new adventure, Gavin tested to be a

fire fighter and passed. "I started on a whim and got really serious in wanting to succeed at it. Then all of a sudden, there I was, a firefighter, but it was not so easy as I thought. I was in a world dominated by men, and it was very difficult. I lived, ate, and slept with men who were racist and sexist. For my own safety, I was closeted. Finally, I had to get out of it."

Gavin turned this experience into a play, *The Roof's on Fire*, which, directed by Ellen Sebastian, premiered in May 1993.

### Emphasis on theatre

Although it began as more of a interdisciplinary arts organization, Brava has become primarily a theatre-based organization. "We do some visual arts," Gavin explains, "but it's all related to theatre. In fact, we've decided to start owning we primarily do theatre.

"We're most known for world premieres," she continues. "Cherrie Moraga will be doing her third play, *Watsonville*, with us in 1995. We also produced her first two plays." Brava also recently produced Cherylene Lee's *Arthur and Leila* and is providing development assistance to Anne Galjour and Ellen Sebastian's *Okra* and to Elizabeth Summers' newest piece, *Female Troubles*.

Gavin moved to San Francisco in 1982 and made her living as a grant writer for various nonprofit multicultural groups. By 1986 she was



Lesbian playwright and Brava! artistic director Ellen Gavin.

"very frustrated with the lack of women's work in the organizations I was working with. We called a meeting at the Galeria De La Raza to see who would be interested, and 75 women came." Thus, Brava was born.

What started as primarily a multicultural women's arts center has blossomed into something different today. "We're filling an important

serving gay and lesbian youth of color called Drama Divas," she relates. "They're phenomenal! The 20 or so kids in the class are about to put out a zine with all their work in it. This is some of the best work coming out of Brava — and they're under 20 years old!"

Gavin constantly flips back and forth from the personal to the professional, from her own ambitions to her future goals for Brava. Still, she is very quiet about her home life with Cherrie Moraga, her partner of five years, and their 11-month-old son. After a brief discourse on her domestic life, she immediately plunges into discussing her work.

"It's kind of hard being a developing playwright while I'm producing, but it's very fulfilling. Also, the last two years have been about sharing power, trying to let other people like Amy Mueller and Cherrie Moraga take up their space. You get so much more done when there are more people in power to do it."

And Gavin foresees more expansion. She's in the process of securing the finances for her own theatre in the Mission and plans to celebrate Brava's 10th anniversary in it. "I get very excited for what it could mean if Brava were to become a major theatre in San Francisco," she confesses, "because we're putting women of color in the forefront. And if we end up with a cultural center that is run by lesbian and gay people and young people, that could be fabulous!" ▼

## Martin/Lyon

(Continued from previous page)

And we're still making a lot of progress, despite all the to do from the extreme right. But we need more people to come out, more people to be active, in order to hold the line. And if we don't, the right will push us back into the '50s mode again.

**EB:** Is there a single issue that's the most important?

**DM:** Educating the public about who we are, which means coming out. We found that our supporters were people who had known some of us. And the opposition were people who, to their knowledge, had never met any of us.

**PL:** Coming out doesn't necessarily mean standing up on top of a roof and yelling that you're a lesbian. But it means letting as many people as possible, that you come in contact with, know that you are.

**DM:** We don't recommend that anybody come out unless they're ready to, and have a support group.

**PL:** They say vigilance is the price of freedom, and it's true. So, besides coming out, lesbians need to see how it is that we can fight the right. And what can they do to get involved in that. And if lesbians can't actually physically go out and join a group, they can send money.

**EB:** What about old age as a lesbian issue?

**DM:** We are now members of Old Lesbians Organizing For Change. To be a member of OLOC you have to be sixty and up.

**PL:** Sixty's a magic year. When you become an old lesbian.

**EB:** What happens?

**PL:** Nothing.

**EB:** Is there enough intergenerational dialogue?

**PL:** There are some young lesbians who are very interested in dialoguing, but the majority tend to say, "You're such heroes"—and that's it.

**EB:** How should young dykes approach old dykes?

**PL:** Everyone's going to be old at some point. At least one hopes that's true, because the other alternative isn't very nice. So people should just be a little more aware of old lesbians around—not as role models, not as wise women, not as some kind of idol that you want to worship from afar, but as people, who are interesting and have lots of things to say and who are doing lots of stuff.

**EB:** Have you enjoyed being lesbians?

**PL:** Yes.

**DM:** And we've enjoyed being activists. It's a lot of fun. It's challenging.

**PL:** You meet a lot of nice people. ▼



**Lords of leather**

Scantly clad leather men enjoy the goings-on at the annual Gay Pride celebration.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

Barbara Hammer and the First Gay and Lesbian South African Film Festival

## Filmmaker on the Move

by Honey Brooks

Celebrated lesbian filmmaker Barbara Hammer is not only a remarkably unconventional woman, she is also a remarkably unconventional artist.

It's been almost 20 years since Hammer traded in her standby medium of acrylic paint for celluloid and video, the allure of motion being too strong to ignore. It was a fitting gesture, for movement, motion and constant change are powerful metaphors in this artist's life. "I hate doing the same old thing," the strikingly handsome, 55-year-old Hammer told me in a recent interview in San Francisco. "That's why I live in two dif-

ferent places (San Francisco and New York). I love to travel and I hate to repeat things."

Given her love of things new and unusual, it only makes sense that Hammer will be honored at "Out in Africa," the first South African International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, which opens June 21 and runs through July 21.

"Out in Africa," will take place in three South African cities, Durban, Johannesburg and Capetown. Among the invited guests expected to attend the festival are British filmmaker Isaac Julien (*Black & White in Color, Looking for Langston, A Darker Side of Black*) and David Haughland, who made the film *Changing Our Minds: The*

*Story of Dr. Evelyn Hooker.* Regrettably, said Hammer, Haughland's co-director and co-producer Richard Schmeichen, died recently of AIDS.

Hammer says she's taking at least four programs to South Africa, a mini-retrospective of her work and that she plans to lecture on gay and lesbian films. "I hope to videotape the gay and lesbian experience in South Africa," said Hammer. "I want to know what life was like under Apartheid and what the hope is for the future."

Jubilantly, Hammer says she's thrilled that she'll be in South Africa only months after the building of a new constitution. "There probably won't be much change. Things don't happen overnight. Even though you can have your rights, if you're not used to expressing them, you might still be acting as if you're in the closet."

### Frameline's help sought

Hammer discussed Mandela's acceptance speech and said his vision for South Africa is one of "freedom of sexual orientation, ethnicity and race. All rights are accorded everyone in the country." His ideas are set in motion by hosting "Out in Africa."

In order to provide an overview of what gay and lesbian films have been like from the beginning of queer cinema up to the present, officials at the South African Film Festival solicited the archives of Frameline, the producers of the San Francisco International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. I asked Hammer how she personally felt about going to South Africa and which of her films would be screened. Hammer enthusiastically responded, "It's a nice honor and I'm thrilled. I don't care if my suitcases are loaded down with 20 million pounds of films. I'm planning to show films from the '70s: *Dyketactics, Superdyke, Women I Love*. From the '80s I'm showing *Synctouch, Stillpoint, Our Trip and No, No, Nookie TV*; from the '90s I'm showing *Vital Signs* and *Nitrate Kisses*."

Hammer describes *Dyke-*



Filmmaker Barbara Hammer: always on the move.

tactics as "the first lesbian love-making film made by a lesbian in 1974. The use of sexuality in film is so easy for me, I don't know why? But

**Given her love of things new and unusual, it makes sense that Hammer will be honored at "Out in Africa."**

it's always something I can celebrate and enjoy. That continues with *Nitrate Kisses*, some 20 years later."

### First film

Hammer has come a long way as a pioneer filmmaker. In 1967, while on her way to Sonoma State where she was studying film editing, Hammer was inspired by an old

building, a pair of old bifocal lenses and a bystander who gave her a mirror. Barbara shot in Super 8 through the bifocal lenses, producing an optical counterpart of these objects. "I filmed this man from above; I put a mirror between my feet and shot myself in the same position. I felt like a woman living in a man's world." The film was projected through a kaleidoscope made of mirrors, creating a fragmented image. Hence, the title of the film, *Schitz*, short for schizophrenia. This was Barbara's first film.

Hammer, later, continued her film studies at San Francisco State University. Today, at the San Francisco Art Institute, Barbara is part of the Visiting Artists' Seminar Program. She recently taught an intermediate film production class, the focus of which was the politics of identity and a graduate seminar on examining the medicalized body and autobiography in film. The latter subjects are the concerns of her latest film project. And, whatever part of the globe Hammer happens to be on in the coming years, she will continue to write, produce, edit and direct film.



**Marching as to war**

ACT UP members take to the streets during Gay Pride festivities. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

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Larry Larue, style and warmth, on the last night on Folsom St. (May, 1987).  
(Photo: Marc Geller)

(Continued from page 47)

And so began the tradition of Oldies Night on Wednesdays. Examples: Elvis' monster "Blue Suede Shoes"; Peggy Lee singing "Fever"; Nancy Sinatra's "These Boots Are Made for Walking." He was eventually picked as an influential reviewer for *Billboard*. "I often put gay groups on top of my list and tried to push third world sounds, like Ziggy Marley."

Does he see the bar's clientele changing? "This is still the first place young guys come to when they leave home. But I don't really care for the yuppie thing that some gay people have recently been going through. All this materialism, people showing up in big cars, like a lot of college boys from Stanford. But then we are selling a lot more Calistoga water — which is good — instead of raising another generation of alcoholics, like we were."

Larue calls himself a co-dependent and feels he was an alcoholic, too. "A strange thing happened when I turned 30, getting old and working at a bar where everyone is supposed to be young. I asked myself: Can I be an old disc jockey? Then I asked: Can I be an old drunk disc jockey? The answer to the first question was yes, but not to the second. Being older is okay; being a mess isn't."

#### Gone but not forgotten

Few of the old employees of The Stud are still around. Jimmie Even and Paul "Gidget" Sinclair (the one who made the collector buttons) both recently passed away. The skinny-black bartender Walter, who everyone liked, died a few years ago. A lot of the thrift store finds on the walls came from him. And Trixie, the owner of Hamburger Mary's, passed away several years ago. Bartender Brian Egg — that's his real name — hasn't been heard of for some time. Sherrie Beth Reese, their first female bartender, and Ben the bookkeeper, are still there. "We were one of the few bars I know that got paid vacations and health insurance," Larue said.

There were also celebrities, some of whom are also now dead. "One night after Gay Day there was a concert with Two Tons of Fun and Sylvester. They got up on our little stage and did a show that

sent shivers down your spine — it was before Sylvester got real big. Once when Etta James played here — on a whole bottle of Remy Martin and who knows what else — she wouldn't get onstage until her coiffure was perfect. We had a hairdresser for her who did it over and over." Sylvester has, of course, succumbed to AIDS.

He also recalled one earlier death that actually took place at the bar. "It was on Oldies Night; he was a heavy drug abuser with a heart condition. He was using poppers and he had a heart attack right on the dance floor. A doctor who happened to be there pronounced him dead at the scene. But you're not supposed to move the body till the ambulance comes. Eventually people just danced around him."

Just this spring, The Stud staff held a memorial service in the bar for Jim "Edie" Fleckenstein, who died after falling off his Potrero Hill balcony. "Nobody witnessed it," his surviving ex-spouse Larue tells me. "Or if they did, they're not talking." Larue, though, blames Edie's death on a combination of Prozac and alcohol, "a bad combination that people should be warned of." When I talked with him most recently, he had become owner of The Stud but had just gotten out of the hospital himself. Deejaying next to the fog machine had put him into a relapse of PCP. New manager Pat Walsh has already had the machine torn out. Larue offered this advice: "People who are HIV positive and work in clubs should be careful. It's not just dry ice, but some chemical."

For Edie's wake, candles were lit all over the bar, which added to the dream space. And a dream space The Stud remains. The fabulous collection of deco lamps still shine in a line above the bar. The "Universal Life Corral" sign still holds a place of honor over the cash register. Curios, mirrors and scroll wood gingerbread still adorn the walls and pillars, holding the places once occupied by more ephemeral bric-a-brac.

And oldies, like us, still sound in the air. "YMCA" by The Village People. Sylvester's "You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real)." And, of course, Sister Sledge still singing the anthem, "We Are Family." ▼

Author Paul Monette

## Literary Lion

by Dale Reynolds

**P**aul Monette, easily the strongest and best homosexual writer in America today, is losing his battle with AIDS. But this man is not going out calmly. Instead, he is raging against the darkness. Angry, biting and articulate, Monette, 48, has a new book out, a collection of essays, *Last Watch of the Night* (Harcourt Brace: \$22). In these 11 essays, the passion of the present — bad health and all — outshines any darkness of the soul. In fact, ironically, his anger has stimulated a new level of self awareness. Such are the subtle but important revelations of great writers.

And Monette is a great writer, not merely because he's always had something to say, but for the simple fact that he's always managed to say it with such honest fervor. Courage, moxie, fortitude, valor — and all of it because he's going to die before he should. Naturally, we're pissed off too because we're all going to be the less for it. As he said in our interview, "With the deaths of Randy Shilts, John Preston, Michael Callen, etc. we're losing a whole generation of leaders in the fight against AIDS."

#### Wanted only to be a poet

There's a humble quality underneath Monette's prepossessing attitude, a quality that is reflected in his not putting himself into that list of leaders, a humbleness which also admits to being surprised at his current prominence in the literary and homophile worlds. With the publication of *Last Watch*, he has entered the world of literary essays. "I never expected to be a writer of non-fiction prose; had no ambitions in that area, originally. I wanted to be a poet like Wallace Stevens or Anne Sexton, or a novelist on the order of Iris Murdoch or Graham Greene. I love being both a poet and a writer of fiction and non-fiction, but it was a revelation to me that non-fiction prose is my way of talking best."

"Three years ago, I was stunted; I didn't know what to do. Winston (his lover) only wanted me to do what I wanted. What he didn't want was for me to be in the middle of a novel and then be too sick to go on with it, or to be in that awful place where I spend 15 hours a day thinking of the characters. Then, essays came to mind. I consciously decided that I would let my battle with AIDS be a

subtext. I'm proud of that. They're not just about AIDS, but what molded me in life."

#### Dealing with illness

At this point in our interview AIDS-reality set in. The air line on his IV detected air bubbles, and began making a peculiar beeping noise, which interrupted us. "This, of course, is non-stop," he said. "I've been on DHPG (Ganciclovir), the gold standard for CMV retinitis treatment, for 14 months. Then followed a cacophony of horrors." These horrors, in addition to the symptoms of the disease itself, were compounded by an unfortunate accident that occurred when a technician put him in a chair that promptly fell out from underneath him, leaving him with three compression fractures at the base of his spine. This, mind you, happened just before he and Winston were to depart for a Rome vacation.

But it didn't stop him; Monette and Winston spent three days in Rome doing the tourist stuff, followed by the Bay of Naples for five days. "I saw Vesuvius, Paestum and Pompei, and then the Cave of the Sybil of Cumae, which is Italy's version of the Greek

(Continued on next page)

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Paul Monette: takes issue with the Pope, Bruce Bawer, and "respectable" gays.

(Continued from previous page)  
Oracle of Delphi. It became a religious experience for me on the pain medication. The night before we left, I gave a speech to the Southern California Library for Social Research. Then I came down with bronchitis from all the kisses I received, and the coughing sent me through the roof because of my back pain. I was on antibiotics that whole time, which cost me 25 pounds in 24 days. Now I'm much improved."

Still, Monette is saddled with an ongoing eye infection and the list of medicines he's been told to take — all of which seem to contradict each other — is frightening.

"The Foscarnate I take now for the eye means I can't take the amphotericin-B as an anti-fungal. I'm on a once-a-week IV, can't keep weight on, my stomach is filled up with yeast, and then there's the colitis, which is caused by the antibiotics. I've learned that if the disease doesn't kill you, the medicine will."

Oddly enough, Monette somehow found the energy to go on a book tour for *Last Watch* plus sit for an interview on Charlie Rose's PBS talk show. While on the east coast he received an honorary degree, bestowed upon him by the City University of New York (CUNY). It's the third honorary degree the author has earned, the other two being from Wesleyan

University and SUNY/Oswego. "Those were interesting in that I had to win the students over from their hostile reactions. I gave the graduation speech; I talked about what it means to live in a pluralistic society — and I spent only six minutes doing it, my shortest speech ever. I was very popular after that."

#### Hates the Pope

As there's no place to hide when you're an outspoken leader, Monette takes as much as he gives in the gay

**"I consciously decided that I would let my battle with AIDS be a subtext."**

political wars. His diatribes against the Catholic Church's stance on gays and AIDS, his fury about the road blocks the conservative Republican administrations of Reagan and Bush put in the way of HIV research, and "neo-cons" — what he calls those gay neo-conservatives who attack him — obviously fuel his will to live. Who are the neo-cons? Men like Bruce Bauer, who in his recent book *A Place at the Table* wrote a ten-page diatribe against Monette, and softies like Richard Rodriguez, who's earned Monette's wrath because of his continual defense of the Pope, and others who apologize for being gay. "They are the stereotypical people who want so hard to be respectable that they ignore what we have achieved at the level of community. While the debate is useful between conservative gays and lefties like me, Larry Kramer and Randy Shilts, ad hominem attacks are unnecessary. They're mean. I think conservatives are odd."

#### Unspoiled by success

Monette, like Shilts, is making some big bucks with his writing. When he won the National Book Award for *Becoming A Man*, it clearly helped sales. The same thing happened when his other

**Monette is determined to stare down AIDS as best he can.**

book, *Borrowed Time*, was nominated for the same award. Unhappily, success can breed jealousy, fear and anger. "I was startled that I won the National Book Award (1992). I don't even remember getting to the table and giving the speech. And doing the publicity at that time was exhausting because I'd had AIDS for a year. But it has had more impact on our people as a whole than anything else, including *Borrowed Time*. *Becoming A Man* speaks to so many, including women and families.

I get a lot of mail, especially from mothers who've become illuminated (by it). I was very careful to use false names for many of the people in the book; I didn't want to "out" anybody in it. I really wanted it to be about outing oneself. I desperately wanted it to be the book I couldn't read at Andover, or what wasn't in Kraft-Ebbing. I'm glad I'm here to tell my story. And the new essays in the book are the most of me that I've been willing to reveal."

Since *Becoming A Man* is only "half a life's story," will there, can there be a sequel? "I don't know. It's all a bargain with time. I was very sick before the book tour, but I haven't been in a fatal place for a year and a half. I'd like to write a novel about a sero-negative person and survival, but I'm not ready to start yet."

Last year, during the March on Washington, Monette was chosen to give the National Book Week speech at the Library of Congress. "My speech went over well to the largest crowd they've ever had. Mind you, I was speaking to the converted, but I said things that put it all into historical perspective, a history which has been stolen from us, things about the fragility of the printed word and how ignorant historians expunge things from the record. And before you know it the Catholic Church burns all the Pagan texts, this Nazi Pope and his Council of Evils at the Vatican."

#### Honesty is best policy

Monette has buried two lovers, Roger Horwitz and Stephen Kolzak, whom both died of AIDS. He's been in a stable relationship with Winston Wilde, a pleasant 36-year-old native of Los Angeles, since 1990. Wilde has begun, in the last year, working to complete a degree in clinical psychology. "I've pushed him to do this," said Monette. "I didn't want him to sit around and take care of me."

Monette is determined to stare down AIDS as best he can. "I don't want to hide my HIV or AIDS from anyone. Self-hatred is so much a part of others who've died from it. Rudolph Nureyev died with a lie on his lips, like Liberace. Nureyev's doctor wanted to tell the truth, but the dancer was in denial and that makes a mockery of the loss of so many of our friends who died so early. His doctor decided he couldn't keep the lie going, and has since talked about the truth of Nureyev's death."

And he's determined, too, to keep on writing. He has a major piece coming out soon in the *Los Angeles Times* called, "Afterwards," an essay about the state of the gay and lesbian union after Stonewall. In addition, St. Martin's Press will publish in August a book of Monette's poems called *West of Yesterday, East of Summer*.

As he says at the end of one of his essays, "Just remember, you are not alone." As simple a piece of advice as you could possibly have. So there he is, icon, sage and mentor to our homophile community. And if you aren't pissed that we're losing someone important, you haven't been paying enough attention. ▼

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Katherine V. Forrest's Road to Righteousness

## You've Come A Long Way, Baby

by Erin Blackwell

Best-selling author Katherine V. Forrest, 55, is so American, she was even born in another country. She embodies the work ethic and exemplifies the sense of high moral purpose Americans have traditionally considered their birthright. Her lesbianism having taught her how to walk the walk, she not only talks the talk, but for just over ten years now, she types the type. Her latest novel, *Flashpoint*, is both a summing-up of her characters' closeted years and a call for all of us to come out, come out, wherever we are.

Forrest brings to her work inside knowledge of the closet, having done her level best not to be a lesbian. "I fought it every which way I could, in order to be what people expected me to be. Because I had such pressure on me, beginning with the Catholic church and my parents' expectations and all the peer pressure," she remembers uncomfortably, in the newly remodeled home in Noe Valley she shares with partner Jo Hercus.

### Felt like a pervert

"I knew from the time I was four or five that I was a lesbian," smiles Forrest. "I started to fall in love with women back at that age. It was a real long, hard process. There was a lot of self-hatred. The road to political consciousness for me has been ..." She interrupts herself, "But it was the way that we were brought up. I grew up thinking I was the only one. And if there were any others, they were just as terrible as I was. We all belonged in this horrible underground that was—in there with communists. I really did feel like somebody perverted."

Not only was she a pervert, but she "had been writing, all my life, off and on." Having left her native Canada at 18, her professional career took her to Reynolds Aluminum, in Los Angeles — "a male preserve" — where she worked as an administrative manager. "I had been working 12 to 14 hour days," she remembers. "There was about a seven-year period where I did not write anything at all. And I didn't even read, for that matter. I basically read *Business Week* and *Forbes*. Because I was trying to make something of myself."

Something that didn't look too much like her. "I was closeted in the business world," she squirms at the memory. "I think back to all of the jobs that I had, and I think of all of us. I know so many people who were absolutely stuffed in the closet. We didn't even acknowledge each other. We knew who 'the other one' was, and there was just such a level of fear."

Appearances notwithstanding, Forrest had an eight-year relationship and was ten years into what would turn out to be a 20 year relationship, when she started to

write her way out of the closet. In 1983, when Forrest was 44, Naiad Press published her lesbian love idyll, *Curious Wine*. "That book kind of burst out of me as a song," she remembers, happily. "I finally wrote what I wanted to read. I think women are just incredibly beautiful together, and I think our sexuality is beautiful, and so I wrote a love song to that, basically."

Lesbian pulp pioneer Ann Bannon — "who was my hero, and whose books were a lifeline to me" — called Forrest's second book, *Daughters of the Coral Dawn*, "a love song to the strength, beauty and ingenuity of women," recalls Forrest. "And I'd like to think that that's been true of all of the work, but it was particularly true of those first two books. Finally, when I broke free, I was like a bird that finally found its voice and was able to sing. It took well over 40 years to get to that state."

Her literary coming out was a step toward self-acceptance and the first point on the graph that charts her evolution as a feminist and gay rights advocate. "In my books I think I've plotted the same sort of curve that I have as a lesbian writer, in terms of political consciousness." Standing in for Forrest, in a series of mysteries, has been her fictional doppelganger, LAPD homicide detective, Kate Delafield. "Delafield has been a good character to work with, in a moral framework, because Kate's political conscience has developed with maddening slowness," laughs Forrest.

"She's not a terribly introspective character," says her creatrix, "which is just something I have to deal with in



Katherine V. Forrest: knew who she was at age four.

the series. When that series started, she was dealing with a homophobic partner that she simply accepted as a fact of life. And all of a sudden, in *Murder By Tradition*, they met at a crossroads and — crash-bang! That book, a moving vindication of a murdered young gay male, ends with Kate breaking off her seven-year professional partnership with the unredeemed homophobe.

### Sensitive and aware

Where Delafield is madly slow, Forrest is admirably methodical. Her choice of subject matter, like her choice of characters, is

**"People who say that we have no family don't know what they're talking about."**

part of the careful construction of a woman-friendly, gay-and-lesbian-positive, multicultural world. "In the last three

books, I have made a conscious decision to have gay characters in my work, because if we belong in each other's lives, we belong in each other's books," she explains.

Forrest even has an agenda for straights: "In the last couple of mysteries, I had two heterosexual people who were hero figures, because I think if our literature starts getting out into the mainstream, we've got to tell these people how it is we think they should behave. 'Let's hope they're reading.'

Asked how she perceives her place in American letters, the even-tempered Forrest seems nearly annoyed. "I'm not a May Sarton," she says. "I write for a lesbian and gay audience. The woman who called me yesterday from Springfield, Missouri, that was her question: 'Does it bother you to be pigeon-holed as a lesbian writer?' It never has. I think it's fine. I don't consider that being pigeon-holed. It's where I want to be. It's what I'm about."

Talk about pride. "People who say that we have no family don't know what they're talking about," she says, delighted to be a part of the community and intent on giving something back. "We have sisters and brothers and certainly children. I think our children are who we all really care about, when it comes right down to it. If we can make it possible for the succeeding generations to be out, what more is there to accomplish? That's why these enemies are arrayed out there. They know what's at stake. That's the great unfinished business of this community."

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Ross D. Merkel

## The (Gay) Man Who Would Be Reverend

by Jerry Metzker

**I**t's been a little more than a year since Rev. Ross D. Merkel of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Oakland announced from his pulpit on a sunny Sunday morning that he was a gay man in a committed relationship. As a result, he was tried and removed from the rostered clergy Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). In defense of their actions, ELCA argued that even though they allow gays and lesbians to be pastors in their member congregations, they must remain chaste.

However, the members of St. Paul remain dedicated to their pastor of twelve years, for Merkel has continued to serve the parish. "Things are going very well," said Merkel in a recent interview in his spacious but cozy office in the large white church in Oakland's Diamond district. According to him, the effect on the 270-member, primarily heterosexual congregation has been anything but detrimental. For instance, St. Paul welcomed 12 new members at its May 22 Pentecost service, only two of whom were gay.

Ironically, given the current dilemma surrounding Merkel's coming out, it's the church's gay and lesbian membership that is not growing. Merkel laughs at the obvious irony. "My coming out has brought hordes and hordes of straight people! And the congregation is more multicultural."

On the down side, only a few members have expressed any discomfort with St. Paul's current situation. "One person has officially withdrawn from membership, and one family has stopped worshipping," he explains.

The ELCA constitution requires its member congregations to employ pastors only on its own clergy roster. By retaining Merkel, St. Paul is in violation of the constitution and potentially faces disciplinary proceedings similar to those Merkel experienced personally. At this time, how-

ever, the Synod has made no mention of any such actions. In fact, a recent synod assembly passed a resolution in support of Merkel and St. Paul.

When Merkel first made his announcement last June, he never expected such support. "To be honest I never thought that far ahead," he admits. "I never thought in terms of things like this when I was coming out. I thought only in terms of the immediate future. Before I made the announcement and while I was wrestling with coming out, my immediate thoughts

**Although the situation between the congregation and the Synod could change, Merkel feels positive about his own place.**

were, What will I do if I'm not a pastor? I didn't think beyond that. And once the trial was over, I didn't think any further than that either."

### Lots of Support

Merkel still receives local and national support. At the entry of the church, a huge binder contains letters of support from Lutherans and others from all over the country. In January of this year, after he had already been charged, but before his removal, members of the local East Bay Conference of the ELCA elected him dean of the conference. Merkel still retains that position, which includes representing the Conference to the Synod. Also, Bay Area members of the Network, a unified group of clergy, educators, and lay leaders within the ELCA, have sponsored two services of support.



Ross D. Merkel: not about to give up his job. (Photo: Judi Parks)

In spite of the trial and potential backlash, Merkel does not feel like the ELCA has persecuted him. Although he was asked by the Synod to avoid the trial by resigning, Merkel refused. "I didn't resign because that didn't seem to be an action that had any integrity in it," he explains. "Second, I didn't want to resign because I like what I do. Third, to resign would imply that I had done something wrong which I didn't feel I had. I'm a Lutheran because I believe the doctrine of the church, the theology."

Merkel also warns against blaming organized religion for what he has gone through. "I don't feel like it is the Christian church or the Lutheran church that has

done this to me," he says. "I feel that what has happened is that some of the people with power have done it, but I don't see it as something the community has done. I think if other gay and lesbian people and even other straight people can see that and make some distinction, and if they're people who want to be part of a Christian community, whether it's Lutheran or any other denomination, I would hope they could find that within their own tradition."

Merkel and his partner were together for five years before Merkel finally told his congregation. In fact, they celebrated their sixth anniversary on February 18, 1994, the first day of Merkel's two-day

trial. Still, he does not credit the relationship as the decisive factor in his coming out process. In fact, he finds it difficult to pinpoint an exact reason.

"Who knows how you put all this together?" he wondered. "Who knows what one part weighs against the other part? It's just all there, and somehow your mind sorts it out and you make some decisions."

### Gayness inevitable

Before the actual announcement, however, Merkel had been coming out gradually to many members of the congregation. "There were people I trusted," he said, "I had friends. Little by little I would tell them, and gradually that circle of friends would expand. And more people would know. And of course, people would tell other people, so it wasn't exactly as if no one knew. And I guess that's how I dealt with it. I told little by little until I was ready to tell everybody."

"There's an incredibly supportive community here at St. Paul's, and I knew there were people who would be supportive. I just had no idea how many. I never anticipated the kind of support there was because of the fear. And fear doesn't allow you to see that. And it doesn't allow you to experience it because it's a barrier which keeps people at a distance."

Although the situation between the congregation and the Synod could change at any moment, Merkel feels positive about his own place. "These past months since the trial, in many respects, it's as if that trial happened to somebody else. My life hasn't changed in any significant way as far as what I do. I preach, I administer the sacraments, I counsel, I bury people, I baptize them. I serve as the dean. I go to clergy meetings. I do all the things I did before. The only difference is my mail from the ELCA says 'Mr. Merkel' instead of 'Reverend.' That's the only difference."

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Prelude to a kiss

Two lesbians get ready to lock lips at last year's Gay Pride festivities.  
(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

# Donna Hitchens: The Law on Our Side

by Susanna Trnka

In 1977, when Donna Hitchens became a lawyer, housing discrimination against gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transsexuals was common, most states had criminal penalties for consensual gay sex, and gay men and lesbians were losing custody of their children on a regular basis. But over the last 17 years, Hitchens, now a Superior Court judge, has witnessed a revolution in the legal status of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transsexuals.

"Today," Hitchens says, "there are laws protecting us from discrimination in employment. A Federal Court just ruled that the military can't discriminate against gays and lesbians, and hate crimes statutes across the country now include lesbians and gay men."

She adds that "In some places like California, co-parent adoption is almost taken for granted at this point."

Donna Hitchens finds it hard to think of any area where there haven't been lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals haven't made some legal gains. But she concedes that not every court battle has ended in success. "The trouble depends on where you live," she explains. "For example, a court in Virginia just took a lesbian mother's child away. But peoples' rights and dignity shouldn't depend on what state they live in."

Alongside the legal victories, one of the main accomplishments of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender movement in Hitchens' opinion is the "enormous change in the number of people who are out and challenging the status quo." She notes the creation of support systems and families based on non-biological ties as the impetus for more people coming out.

Hitchens herself began exploring and speaking out about her sexual identity in the early 1970's. "I came out in the midst of the women's movement in Maine and found some support, but not an enormous amount," she relates. At the time she was a Civil Rights activist, but she soon became "frustrated by a profession that changes individuals and not systems" and decided to become a lawyer.

She moved to the Bay Area in 1974 and publicly came out while attending law school at Golden Gate University, where she was one of the founding members of the student group Lesbians in Law.

"It took a lot to overcome the fear of rejection," she remembers, "but I just did not want to be closeted anymore. And I never regretted it."

Four years ago Hitchens ran as an out lesbian in her campaign for Superior Court and beat the incumbent judge. "Most of my colleagues," she remarks, "are exceptionally respectful of the fact that I'm a lesbian."

Hitchens believes that the gay, lesbian, bisexual movement's success lies in "forging alliances with other groups of

people who are similarly left outside of the system." The foundation for this strategy Hitchens attributes to the fact that "we are a diverse community, a multi-cultural community, so we really understand that different groups experience different levels of discrimination, but that this does not make us enemies."

Looking into the future, Hitchens would like to see the gay, lesbian and bisexual community continue putting its energy into strengthening non-traditional family bonds. Other key issues that she believes deserve ongoing attention are employment discrimination, healthcare, family benefits and civil protection.

She would also like to see more mediation of the disputes that arise within the gay and lesbian community.

"Sometimes people get very ego-invested in positions and power and this takes energy away from the real battle," Hitchens says. "We have to figure out that we can disagree. It is how these disagreements escalate into community battles that most of time could be avoided."

Overall, Hitchens believes that the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender movement has come a long way since the days of Stonewall.

"Sometimes," she says, "I hear about a hate crime and I think 'oh my God...' But in general, the gains have been enormous." ▼

Age: 46

Significant Other: Nancy Davis, together for 18 years

How long in Bay Area: 20

years

Age of Coming Out: 23

First Queer protest: Gay

Freedom Day Parade in 1975

First Queer Organization: formed LIL (Lesbians In Law) at Golden Gate University

Her role models: her camp counselors and PE teachers



Lesbian Superior Court Judge Donna Hitchens.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

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Lawrence Chua Talks Tough About Queer Representation, Culture and Guns

## Critical "Conversating"

by Daniel Mangin

"I'm interested in permanently overthrowing white supremacy capitalism and patriarchy," declares *Bomb* magazine managing editor Lawrence Chua when asked if any political agenda guides his work. "I'm laughing when I say that," the 27-year-old adds quickly, but even a cursory perusal of his writings in the *The Nation*, *Village Voice*, *New York Times*, *Vibe* and elsewhere reveals a zeal to challenge prevailing cultural attitudes. His theories sometimes clash with accepted "progressive" alternatives as well.

Chua, Malaysian-born and (from age four) Brooklyn-raised, has been in the Bay Area twice recently. He presented clips and discussed sexuality and gender in Asian/Pacific Islander cinema at the San Francisco Asian American International Film Festival and moderated a panel on teen imagery at the San Francisco International Film Festival.

At the second event, he borrowed a term from Snoop Doggy Dogg and said his goal was to "converse," which he does on the page and on radio. An occasional correspondent for NPR, he also co-hosts "Radio Bandung," a weekly show on WBAI, Pacifica's New York station. We "conversed" twice last month about criticism, queer representation, guns and other topics.

★★★

Daniel Mangin: What was your first writing gig?

Lawrence Chua: While I was still in high school I started writing about music for *New York Rocker* and also publishing small punk and hip-hop fanzines. The first real job I got out of school was at *W*.

As in *Women's Wear Daily*?

Yeah. I was an editor there, 19 or 20, and writing about the arts. It was ... interesting.

In what way?

Being a communist at a socialist fashion magazine. I felt like a couture communist.

So you do have an agenda.

Yes, but my political agenda isn't separate from my aesthetic agenda.

Which is?

There's a tendency when we discuss cinema in a political context only to speak about the figures in the frame. So the question of how do we imagine a radical cinema becomes how many happy faggots can we fit in the frame.

The problem with this is that it buys into the post-modern separation between form and content. How do we educate people that even the most banal Hollywood narratives are often the most effec-

tive in terms of influencing the way we imagine ourselves and the way we behave?

Anyone engaged in cultural production as a form of resistance needs to refuse the separation between form and content. Otherwise, you have things like *The Wedding Banquet* and a lack of any critical understanding as to why that movie is so fucked up.

underneath the demands of this very colonial relationship between the black man and his white lover.

Ultimately, what does this woman become? An incubator. Why is this movie so progressive if we're essentially articulating a lack of reproductive rights for women?

I don't mean to rain on anyone's parade and I understand that people can still en-



Lawrence Chua: his politics and aesthetics talk to each other.

(Photo: Daniel Mangin)

Yet it touched so many people.

Because it's locked into conventional notions of storytelling. For me those narrative structures subvert any progressive intention a film may have. *The Wedding Banquet* is a melodrama. The backbone of Chinese melodrama is the family, and the point of traditional Chinese melodrama is to reinscribe the very Confucian notion of patriarchy and the idea that if you don't have a happy heterosexual family, you don't have happiness for yourself.

Even though *The Wedding Banquet* may on some levels be trying to articulate new ways of thinking about family, it fails. The audience is never asked to question any feelings they may have about what's going on in the film. They just laugh and cry and then leave the theatre.

People didn't catch its message about tolerance?

I don't want to be tolerated. I don't need to be tolerated. I carry a gun.

Look, the way the story was told, the very real tension coming from the love that a black man might have for a black woman is steamrolled

joy a lot of these narratives. I love a good cry. But at the same time I understand socially what this means.

**"There's something very limiting about referring to oneself as gay or lesbian, period. It doesn't speak to the diversity of sexual experience."**

Define how you're using "black" here.

In a political context, to refer to African Americans, Latina and Latino, Asian and Native American people.

Are you sure that because people leave a theatre happy they haven't learned anything?

For me, catharsis implies a resolution. That tidiness, the way a narrative can be tied up in pretty little ribbons at the end, it's fraudulent.

But does a tidy ending necessarily close off thought?

What does every American say about a movie they see at the cineplex? "I loved it." "I enjoyed it." Period. Or "I hated it." I don't like films that let the audience off that easily, where they can go home and feel, "Oh, I understood what that movie was about. It was about 'this is good and that is bad!'"

But the real problem I have with current movies like *The Wedding Banquet*, *Totally F\*\*\*ed Up* and *Threesome* is that there's this mythology that somehow our sexualities are contained within definite borders. There's something very limiting about referring to oneself as gay or lesbian, period. It doesn't speak to the diversity of sexual experience in this country.

The failure to imagine those places in between and across traditional boundaries has been a shortcoming, not just in terms of artistic practice, but in very real terms.

Why are black women from Thailand to Uganda to Detroit dying of AIDS disproportionately to their actual numbers? When are we going to begin to theorize and imagine the man who loves his wife but also likes to go to the next town and fuck boys and then comes home and fucks his wife without a condom? And how does that refusal to wear a condom then become a construction of masculinity?

This is deep, deep shit. It's something artists in this country, especially "queer artists," have failed to address. I'm not talking about some kind of closeted homosexuality, or bisexuality, but sexual practice much more complex, that terms like "gay," "straight," "bi" don't adequately encompass.

That's one of the things I liked about [the BBC version of] *The Buddha of Suburbia*, because with the main character it was like, "Oh, he's giving that guy a hand job" or, "Oh, he's sticking his dick in his mouth." And it was not a gay or even a queer narrative, but activity treated as an integral part of growing up. Which I think it is for a lot of people.

Didn't *Threesome* make the same point?

Yeah, but it's such a finite experience. You do this in college and then you go on and incubate. Or become gay. Besides, if that is the most exciting sexual experience you can have is fucking some macho, to have your hand on his thigh for a second...

Well, you know, a lot happens in those filmic discussions.

Not that much.

Talk about the radio documentary you worked on in Thailand.

It's about the migration of labor from the rural north to work in the sex industry of the south and then back to the north — essentially young children who are HIV-positive. It explores the role of the U.S. in creating this situation and how the U.S. and Europe are involved in the sex industry in Thailand.

We collaborated with an organization called FACT, the Fraternity for AIDS Cessation in Thailand, which has done a lot of work with male sex workers in creating a poetry workshop where people wrote poems for the radio about living with HIV and AIDS.

*Do you see your critical writing as part of a dialogue with artists and their public?*

It's really distressing to hear "independent filmmakers" get upset at intelligent critical responses to their films. Do you want to converse or not? Do you want to have a dialogue or do you just want to have a blow job?

I'm not interested in furthering the career of any artist. Conducting a critical dialogue is a way to open up the audience that goes to a particular film to much broader issues.

I think the power of any film is that it may disrupt, it may reinscribe and it may do both at the same time. I'm interested in looking at the imagery of people like Ice Cube and Snoop Doggy Dogg and how they definitely are commercial personae — how they simultaneously disrupt and reinscribe.

Like I said before I love guns. I'm the proud owner of a Colt 45. But that doesn't mean I don't also understand the problems of black on black violence and intercommunal violence and who that serves.

*OK, I'll take the bait. Why do you love guns?*

Why do you think? (Pause.) It's really complicated ... and not that complicated. Because they're big and shiny. I like guns because they suggest agency. I love personal and political agency. Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun...

*You'd better hope I don't forget to add, "He laughed when he said that last part, too."*

(Menacing smile.)

*People reading this could get the idea that you don't like much current cinema. What's caught your fancy lately besides Buddha?*

*Go Fish* made me want to be a lesbian. *Bhaji on the Beach* was interesting because it was refreshing to see something that was as provocative as it was populist. Provocative in the way it opens up a dialogue about domestic violence and intercommunal tension. These stories unfold in a way that is neither pandering nor rarefied. Also, *The Puppetmaster* and *Rebels of the Neon God* from Taiwan because of the way they fuck with form. ▼

*Games Organizer Tells What the Games Are All About*

## Susan Kennedy: Force Behind the Games

by Dianne Aaronson

**S**usan Kennedy is one of those individuals who manages to get things done. And when this requires putting in an additional 20-to-30 hours of volunteer time per week, in addition to a full-time job and a relationship, she plows right ahead, never wasting a precious minute to consider the possibility of saying "no." The day Susan and I got together for this interview, she had rocks in her shoulders from typing all week — not at work, but after-hours at home, working on a contract between the Federation of Games and Amsterdam, which will be the next host city of the Gay Games in 1998. The week before, Susan and I touched base briefly one evening as she and two other board members of Team San Francisco, Gene Dermody and Winston Mathis, ran back and forth between boxes and table, attempting to organize TSF uniforms for pick-up as the stampede of athletes commenced.

Because I have known and worked with Susan Kennedy for many years, I can promise that this is just a typical day in the life for her, though the pace has intensified over the past few weeks.

And true to form, she was able to squeeze one more hour out of her day for this interview, so that people would have a better understanding of what the Games are all about.

★★★

*Diane Aaronson: What are your capacities within the organizational structures of the Games?*

Susan Kennedy: Co-chair of TSF is probably what most people here identify me with. I'm most visible doing merchandising, fundraising, etc. But I'm also the Co-President of the Federation of Gay Games, the other Co-President being Rick Peterson in Seattle.

The hierarchy of the Games is this: Consider the Federation as the parent or governing body. New York is the current host organization, TSF (Team San Francisco) is the local group. An analogy would be to view the Federation as the IOC, NY as a Lillehammer or Atlanta, and TSF as one of the local organizations that work to get the people to the Olympics from a logistical standpoint.

*What exactly is the Federation?*

A lot of people don't really know what the Federation is or even that it exists because there is a particular focus, and rightly so, on the current host. But the Federation is a direct outgrowth of SF Arts and Athletics. Once the Games went to Vancouver and Tom (Waddell) died in '87, people realized that if this event was going to continue to grow and internationalize, it had to become a more encompassing organization.



*Susan Kennedy: workin' hard for the Federation. (Photo: Judi Parks)*

*Such as...*

The Federation, which was formed in Seattle in 1989, is the governing body. It is up to us to make sure that the Games continue every four years and that the founding principles (participation, inclusion and personal best) are followed.

TSF became an organizational member in the fall of '89 and I was appointed their delegate.

*Who represents this governing body?*

The Federation is made up of volunteers. So far we have delegates from Australia, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, and, once the contract is signed, Amsterdam.

*Can you give an example of some of the work the Federation has been doing?*

The two most significant accomplishments in the past couple of years of which I am very proud are: One, meeting with the US Olympic Committee in January '83, which resulted in an open line of communication between the two organizations. One result of this was that Gay Games IV was listed in their (U.S. Olympic) 1994 directory. Two, the fact that we got the Attorney General to grant the ten-day waiver for HIV-positive participants coming to the Games from other countries.

This is particularly important to us since one of the founding principles of the Games was inclusion. We didn't want an HIV-positive status to be a deterrent to anyone who wanted to participate. Up until the time the waiver was granted to the Games, it had been used for scientific, medical and educational types of conferences. It's not that people couldn't come into the country before, but there were definitely some hoops they had to jump through and it was a lengthy process, involving case by case review. Now, people still have to apply for a visa, but once they declare an HIV-positive status, the questions stop.

*Give us a rough idea of what your last month has been like regarding Federation work.*

Well, we're in the final stages of contract negotiations with Amsterdam. Also, the Federation has hired a public-relations firm in New York. Rick and I have been doing a lot of interviews. ▼

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### **LIBERATION FOR ALL!**

- *Spirit of Stonewall (SOS)* is a group of lesbians, gays and others committed to freedom, formed to bring Stonewall 25 back to the principles of gay liberation.
- *The Stonewall uprising* was an outcry, by those at the bottom and on the margins of society, against puritanical self-righteousness and bigotry. It was a cry for full sexual liberation as part of the struggle for social justice. They did not call for their rights; they seized their own freedom!
- Now there is an attempt to exclude groups from the Stonewall 25 march and celebration, and from their place within gay/lesbian space and discourse. But every organization at Stonewall 25 need not endorse every other organization's positions. Every group deserves strong support in its rights of free speech and association.
- Gay and lesbian activists before Stonewall understood the task of liberation. We agree with the 1951 Mattachine Society slogan: "We will integrate as a group on our own terms, or we will not integrate at all." We will define our own agenda and decide for ourselves who we are!
- Within our movement, if our brother or sister self-identifies as gay, we will march with them and with them. We call on Stonewall 25 for unity on the path to liberation.
- NAMBLA MARCHES WITH US!

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**ACT UP/Minnesota, Anti-Fascist Network, Baltimore Gay Alliance, Feminists Against Censorship, Frighten the Horses, Gayme, The Guide, Lesbian and Gay Freedom Movement (London), Modern Words, On Our Backs, Outpunk, Pink Triangle Press, Revolutionary Trotskyist League, Steam**

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Tel (617) 695-8015 Fax (617) 266-1125

I (we) will march in New York Sunday, June 26, 1994 with *Spirit of Stonewall*. Meet Sunday, June 26 at 10 a.m. under the arch at Washington Square (4th St. Subway Stn, Greenwich Village). For latest info, call the SOS hotline: (212) 631-5824.

We cannot march, but will march "in spirit."

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## ACT UP LA Creates Ruckus Giving Schoolkids Condoms

by Karen Ocam

It began with a planned presentation of the play *Secrets* at Glendale, California's Hoover High School. Produced by HMO giant Kaiser Permanente, the play teaches high schoolers about safer sex, including the use of condoms, and has been seen by over 700,000 students across the state since 1986.

But not in Glendale: Unified School District Superintendent Robert Sanchis cancelled the performance, telling the press that teaching safer sex and condom use to prevent the transmission of HIV violates the district's policy of teaching abstinence.

That action prompted ACT UP LA to hold an AIDS awareness and condom give-away demonstration before school on March 30. Many students were glad to get condoms and information, said ACT UP's Jeff Schuerholz, but a few others said they agreed with the school that abstinence is the best policy.

"The human immunodeficiency virus, which is believed to cause AIDS, is so small that it can penetrate condoms," Hoover High senior Clay Whiteley erroneously told the *Los Angeles Times* as he passed out literature "dispelling the myth" of safe sex and proving the need for better HIV information.

"This is a very complicated issue," Susan Kussman, an actress and president of the Hoover High School Parent-Teacher-Student Association, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We went through all the proper channels to bring this play here. We talked to the principal who regarded this as an onsite student assembly decision and a joint venture between the principal and the PTA. We did everything that PTAs throughout the nation mandate as far as AIDS awareness. We followed Family Life Education Guidelines printed by the district. And we had the principal helping us bring it to the students."

"The problem is he [the principal] didn't call the superintendent and say, 'We're going to do this play — is it okay?' There was no shady motive. He regarded it as within the guidelines used in schools all over. It wasn't like it was any big deal."

"But apparently two years ago someone saw *Secrets* and decided it wasn't appropriate to do in Glendale high schools and turned it down. Someone got in a snit because the program had not been cleared with them," so the assembly was canceled, Kussman said. She observed that "everything they [the school board] do is in secret, so we didn't know it had been turned down."

"There was an immediate uproar. The superintendent worked all day on a press release to try to cover their butts," Kussman said. "It was a smokescreen to cover what was basically a bad decision — especially since he never asked for any input or supporting material. He had four reasons: One, that *Secrets* teaches about safer sex, and the school's policy is to teach

abstinence only. Two, we didn't notify the parents in Armenian, Spanish, and Korean — but we did go through channels and no child would have been allowed into the assembly without a permission slip from their parents. I believe that we must give parents a say in what their children will see. We gave the power to the parents where the power should reside. How dare they tell me what my child can and cannot see!"

"Three, he said the parental review evening was too close to the actual event. We had a parental review night, and we already made changes in the script: we took out the demonstration of a condom on a banana. And four, the district didn't have enough time to review the program's content."

"They were lying," Kussman told the *B.A.R.* And the lies continued, she said, when district spokesperson Vic Pallos tried to discredit ACT UP by telling reporters, "We already teach all this stuff. We teach safe sex. We teach about condoms at Hoover. We don't need *Secrets*."

"It's a blatant lie. It's all been a blatant lie," Kussman said.

The School Board subsequently adopted new, stricter guidelines for getting approval of an AIDS awareness program, despite opposing pleas from parents. The new guidelines are:

1) The proposed program must be consistent with Family Life Sex Education guidelines;

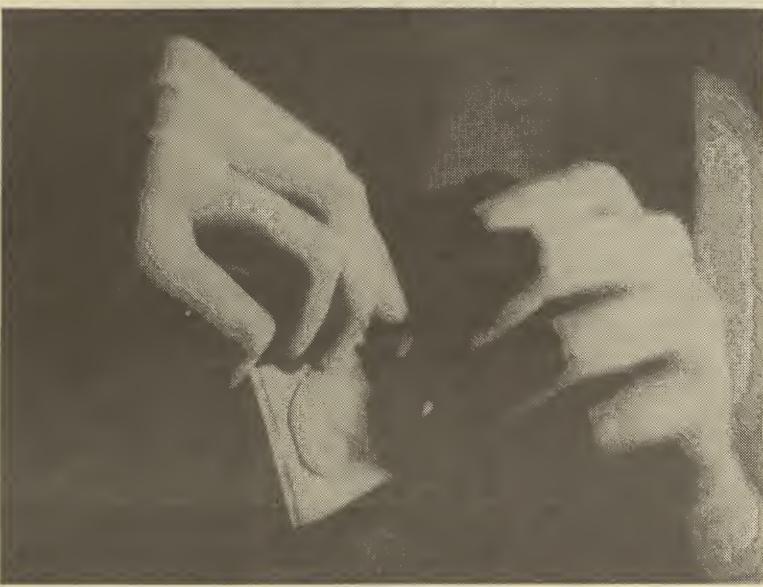
2) The overall impact encourages abstinence as the only behavior certain to prevent sexually spread diseases;

3) It does not encourage or condone sexual relations outside the context of marriage;

4) It may inform about but not dwell upon or advocate safer sex practices; and

5) It cannot contain graphic or explicit descriptions of safer sex practices.

Kussman says that ACT UP made "a terrible mess" with its demonstration. "They so offended the teachers and the community, we are now linked with them," she told



Tear it open, slip it on. But if you use your teeth, be careful of punctures.

the *B.A.R.* "They set us back another four or five years." She says the demonstration shifted the community's focus from teaching the kids about AIDS prevention to the issue of who should teach them.

Meanwhile, Kussman said, *Secrets* played the following week in Burbank, where over 2,000 students saw the play — and only 12 slips came back not allowing children to see it. "Overwhelmingly, the parents want their children to see this program and that right has been taken away from us," Kussman said. "We're talking about death here. It's horribly scary."

The situation is equally frightening to Marilyn Gunnell, the president of Glendale Leaders for AIDS Awareness, a local group committed to educating youth and adults about AIDS. For her, the cancellation of *Secrets* was another in a series of anti-AIDS education moves by a handful of Glendale conservatives.

"Everybody knows abstinence is the best policy as it

pertains to AIDS. It's the only 100 percent safe and protective way to avoid AIDS," Gunnell commented to the *B.A.R.* "We also know that people in general are going to be sexually active. And when people are coming down with full-blown AIDS at 24 or 26 — take away ten years of an incubation period and they're getting infected at 14 — you don't need a doctor's degree in trigonometry to figure that out. They need to be taught safer sex and other modalities of expressing sexuality and affection."

Gunnell thought the ACT UP demonstration was "excellent and well-run," even if some of the stickers were "unnecessary." A private investigator, registered nurse, and member of the Glendale Sunrise Rotary Club, which is "interactive" with a high school club, she became interested in AIDS when a friend revealed that her child had died after a transfusion. Subsequently the Rotary kids became interested in doing an AIDS Aware-

ness Week at the high school. And although they appealed to the kids, only 15 parents came for parent's night.

Then Gunnell ran into trouble when she displayed safe sex literature as part of a fundraiser. "Paul Shere, pastor of the North Glendale United Methodist Church, had a royal freak out," she said. "He's opposed to any sex education other than abstinence." The "ruckus" he created with the School Board resulted in Gunnell's removal as the Rotary advisor to the high school club. The newly-installed club advisor made the high schoolers promise to "never again talk about AIDS in club meetings," Gunnell says. Meanwhile, that same week the debate club argued about AIDS and Haitians. "They could talk about it, but these kids can't. Where do we live?"

Shortly after the demonstration, ACT UP members Schuerholz and Amy Heller were invited to Gunnell's next "Leaders" meeting. The approximately 30 parents, teachers, and students there thanked ACT UP profusely for coming to Hoover High, and Schuerholz told the enthusiastic students, "The ball's in your court now. You have to take this on." But, he told them, ACT UP would go back one day unannounced.

Although Schuerholz was pleased the meeting happened, he is concerned that Glendale parents and teachers don't see their struggle as part of a larger takeover effort being played out by the religious right.

"I think they're behind everything that happened at Hoover High," he said, noting that he recognized a religious right regular videotaping the demonstration. "They're taking over school boards around the country to push their own agenda. And they're not teaching about AIDS. They're teaching that safer sex is promoting homosexuality — regardless of who dies." ▼





## Roma Guy: An Institution of Social Change

by Susanna Trnka

When Roma Guy moved to San Francisco in 1974, she dove headlong into local progressive activism. She joined her first lesbian support group, worked alongside Harvey Milk in promoting gay and lesbian rights, helped start a shelter for battered women, and began planning the foundations for the San Francisco Women's Building.

Twenty years later, the level of Guy's political involvement has not diminished. She has just completed two years as the director of the Women's Building's fundraising campaign, and is currently involved in their struggle to convince the Historical Society to permit them to place a mural on their building.

According to Guy, the main issues in the women's movement today are the same ones feminists were confronting twenty years ago.

"We still have battered women," she says. "We still need to raise consciousness about rape - that much hasn't changed, but how we address the issues has changed."

These differences are due to economics. "Today we make the connection between homelessness and battering," Guy explains, "while twenty years ago we didn't need to make that connection."

The most dramatic changes in the past two decades have not occurred in the feminist movement, but in what was once called the "homosexual rights movement," Guy asserts.

"Stonewall began with the transgender community, who sparked the consciousness of the movement. But gays and lesbians took over and made the transgender community invisible," she relates, "and now, as the bisexual and transsexual movements have really taken off, it's all come around."

According to Guy, the movement is no longer primarily focused on asserting gay and lesbian identity. "Issues of sexuality are not just lesbian and gay," she asserts, "but are more flexible than that, and include lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, etcetera - whatever that etcetera might be. The point is to get beyond the identity of what you practice today."

Advancing beyond the conception of gay and lesbian identity isn't always easy, Guy points out. "Some of this is more threatening to some of us, such as lesbians like myself who fought for our identities, but we really need to move beyond it," says Guy.

But at its core, even though the landscape of what was once "gay rights" has changed, as have our sexual identities, the purpose of the struggle, in Guy's opinion, remains the same. "The words have changed but the essence of the struggle hasn't," she asserts. "We are still trying to unravel the same issues, we are still basically trying to deal with insensitivity."

Today, the primary focus for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender movement, according to Guy, should be healthcare. She strongly advocates a single payer health care system and criticizes "the false competition we have now" as too expensive. Guy also believes that another key issue of any progressive movement of the '90s should be the reformation of the present tax system. "We need an entirely new system," Guy asserts, "so that we can have legitimate child care, and legitimate services for people in recovery of trauma. Without restructuring the tax system, we end up with intolerant legislation like this new ATM law where you can't beg for money close to an ATM. It's a simple way, an intolerant way, for solving homelessness that won't work."

Finally, Guy stresses that "the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender movement, or perhaps the 'sexuality movement' as it could be called now, needs to be more open around issues of gender, race and age."

As in her work at the Women's Building, which she describes as a place that encourages discussion of different points of view, Guy advocates basing the queer movement on a broader political vision, rather than on a single, unified platform.

"There will always be leadership from different places," she explains, "and we can't demonize people because they come from different perspectives. If, for example, we are all struggling for domestic partnership, then let



Women's Building director Roma Guy. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

that be the issue. We need to be more issue-focused than personality-focused."

When it comes to elections, the primary problem with voting for someone solely on the basis of their identity, Guy stresses, is that this does not hold them politically accountable for their actions.

"The color of your skin or your gender does not make you accountable to your constituents," she asserts. "So if I

voted for Barbara Boxer because she is a woman, this does not mean that she is held accountable to support immigrant's rights. Whatever she does in office, she is still acting as a woman." Her solution to this is to consciously look beyond a candidate's identity and base her vote on their political stance.

Despite her emphasis on the issues, given the choice between electing an openly

gay or lesbian political candidate and a more experienced straight ally, Guy would back the lesbian or gay newcomer, as long as her or his politics were progressive. "It will be interesting," Guy remarks, "when bisexual and transgender candidates begin campaigning, to see if gay men and lesbians support them. I know I will."

But Guy's main query about the future of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender involvement in politics is, where are the young people? She protests that though she "hears rumblings that younger people want to take part in politics, we don't see anyone surfacing yet."

"Our generation made major contributions and can still do that," Guy declares. "But we need new people too." ▼

Age: 52

Significant other: Diane Jones, together "for the second time around" for 11 years  
How long in Bay Area: 20 years

Age of Coming Out: 29

First Queer protest: Can't remember, something before the Briggs initiative

First Queer Organization: Lesbian support group in SF

Role models when growing up: Emily Dickinson and Ida B. Wells

Role models for kids today: Hillary Clinton, Anita Hill, Audre Lorde, Delores Huerta

Her Role Model today: Janice Mirikitani (poet who also works at Glide Church)

Favorite quote: "You can't torture the willing," from the poet Amira.



**Arms out, shoulders back**

Undressed for success marchers at the SF Gay Freedom Parade go through their paces to the crowd's delight.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Musician and Teacher Carries Inspiring Message

## Avotcja: Sage Spirit

by Laura Post

**A**votcja Jiltonilro is a musician and vocalist, a deejay, off-Broadway composer, photographer, storyteller and teacher. She's an energetic, creative woman who writes and speaks eloquently about her own unusual and interesting life.

"When I was 14, and got a guitar," says Avotcja, "my mother had dreams of me sounding like Segovia. At that point I wanted to, but then I heard the Blues and heard Blind Lemon Jefferson and Leadbelly and Arsenio Rodriguez from Cuba and wanted to play like them."

Raised in Spanish Harlem, influenced by boleros, African, Euro-classical, salsa, calypso, gospel, blues, jazz styles, Avotcja, a black Puerto Rican, has found her niche on the stage and in music. She's no novice either as she's shared that stage with talents like Diane Di Prima, Linda Tillery, Rachel Bagby, Mary Watkins, Mother Tongue, Women of All Red Nations, Casselberry-Dupree, and Dance Brigade. Avotcja's cassette, *Has Anybody Heard My Song?* was recently released, and she's now hard at work on a new recording.

There's a rhythm to Avotcja's poetry, a loose jazzy quality to her rap, a Spanglish/Island perspective. She's a seasoned world traveler and performer and wherever she happens to be playing, an elegant multi-textured joy is the assured product.

"I went to Mexico for a while. Then Canada, and the West Coast; the day before I was 16, I wound up in California, 'the runaway state.' I looked very young, so people who would hire kids for almost nothing would give me horrible jobs. From the way I talked, they knew I wasn't quite as young as I looked, and so I got hired at the playground to work with kids who were learning how to read and write in English and Spanish."

### Deejay supreme

At present, Avotcja deejays on several radio shows. On

Thursdays she's at KFPA, doing a mix of African, calypso, jazz, and salsa; and on Fridays she's at KPOO. "The last Thursday of the month, I do a blues program. There's a weird blues segregation trip out here that nobody wants to talk about. Myself and Gorman Lee are the only black and blues deejays in the Bay Area. On the white blues programs, they talk about blues like they talk about folklore, like it's dead. Like it died with Howlin' Wolf or Muddy Waters, but it's not dead, it's very much alive. I play that older stuff, but I also play a lot of the stuff that's happening now, and it's happening big time."

### First lesbian audience

Avotcja was introduced to mainstream lesbian audiences through the West Coast Lesbian Festival (WCLF). "When Pat Parker was alive, the last years of Pat's life, we double-billed together. We were never lovers, only friends, but very close friends. I was clean and sober, and Pat liked being around me, and the ultimate show of friendship was that I never saw her drunk, and I know when I was using I could have never done that; that's the highest respect that anybody could ever give."

After being scheduled to appear by Pat's friend and co-producer of the First West Coast Lesbian Festival, Marilyn Van Veersen, Avotcja reveals, "I was thinking that it was going to be everybody singing the same three chords and saying, 'I am a lesbian. I am a woman. I am a lesbian woman.' But then Marilyn started hiring people who I know who are really good artists: Melanie De' More, Rashida Oji, June and Jean Millington, Cheryl Harrison from up North, and lots of folks of color who have seen each other in passing over the years. Still, I thought that, with the exception of maybe Barbara Macdonald, I would be the oldest woman there, nobody else over 45. I also thought that there would be very few people of color, that me and Melanie and Rashida and Cheryl and June and Jean would probably be the only people of color there."



Avotcja, musician, composer, poet and free spirit.

"When I got there it was just the opposite. There were all these seniors, so many people of color who were just being who they were. Nobody was forcing people into being somebody that they weren't; people were dealing with each other on the basis of respect. It felt really good. I'm 52 now, so I guess I was 50 then."

"There was every kind of music you could think of. There were not only a lot of seniors, there were a lot of kids there, kids who were doing great and positive things. For me, that's what a festival is supposed to be like. I'm afraid of people who have to

have everybody sound the same and look the same."

### Musician and teacher

Not only does Avotcja inspire in the moment she's also trying to empower the next generation: *Inside These Walls* is a collection of works by prisoners, and *Ghetto Flowers, Volumes I and II*, due out soon, is the work of her students. "I work in the public school system and in the county jail, teaching creative writing and music, especially getting people who may not be proficient in the King's English to look at things for what they really are. I'm basically getting people, English-

speaking people and Black Americans, some Asians, a lot of Latinos as well, to realize that they have their own brilliance and to use it. What we call 'switch-hittin', to be able to speak King's English when it comes time to get a job and then go back to talking whatever they talk, you know, ghetto rap, barrio rap, as soon as you walk away."

Avotcja has written three books, *La Voz Boricua, Oh Yeah* and *Ache/Power*; one in Spanish, one English, and one bilingual. She has penned a tome of poetry, short stories, photography, and historical documentation called *Pura Candela*. ▼

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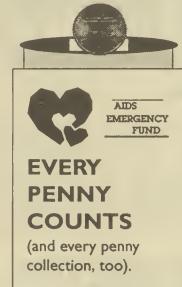
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*Stuart Loomis Remembers*

## Seasoned Veteran

by Paul Bollwinkel

**O**ne of the best things about the movie *Coming Out Under Fire* is the expert witness director Arthur Dong uses to tell his scathing tale of military injustice during World War Two. Among the gay service people interviewed is Stuart Loomis, a handsome, thoughtful 74-year-old San Franciscan who spent his war years as a Psychologist's Assistant, first at Ft. Bliss, Texas and then at Fort Ord and the Presidio.

And while the film may bring Loomis his 15 minutes of fame, looking back at his life's accomplishments — as we did in conversation at his Castro Street apartment — it became clear that 15 isn't really enough. His role in the Army was only the beginning of a rich, distinguished adult life.

Loomis' calm, rational observations about gay integration in the military give *Fire* some of its most persuasive moments. He saw few instances where gay presence caused problems and offers sound objections to the brass' eventual efforts to oust them.

"We didn't have many cases where gayness was the presenting problem. It was sometimes incidental to other behavior problems. There were instances of men suffering bereavement depression after being overseas and losing close buddies, and we sometimes wondered about the degree of sorrow and loss.

"There was one man I knew in one of the barracks who was eventually the ranking sergeant. He was a hillbilly boy, a real nelly number, and he got along very well because he didn't put up with trouble from anybody. The boys didn't give him any shit

because he'd put them in their place the way any good campy queen could do.

"In the Army you had to be cautious. There were unwritten rules. You didn't have sex on the base, but a lot of those lookouts on the Golden Gate are pretty romantic places, so if you were out walking with a buddy on a foggy afternoon... who knows what might happen."

Loomis' strong gay-positive outlook began early in life. To a younger generation of gay people, who may feel that "coming out" began in the early '70s, Loomis' discovery and self-acceptance — a process that took place in the early 1930s in his hometown of Omaha — may come as a surprise.

"I went through the end of High School and college knowing that I was gay and finding a gay community and gay life. You have two worlds when you do that. You have your gay world and the rest of the world. In my case I was 18 years old when my mother finally asked me.

"She had become curious about a relationship I was having with another boy. He was away for the summer and we were writing each other daily. She thought this was strange and so, being a snoopy mother, she read some of my letters from him. We sat on the porch on a hot summer night and drank iced tea and talked about it. I was a little uptight but determined to stand my ground. After we talked awhile she said an interesting thing. 'I can understand how a man could be interested in men,' she said, 'I've always liked men.'"

### Discharged

In 1948 Loomis was honorably discharged when the Army was downsizing and stayed in San Francisco with



Stuart Loomis: worked in the Haight during the 'summer of love' and served in the military. (Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

thousands of other gay soldiers who added to the already noticeable gay presence in the City.

"San Francisco had the reputation for being the gayest city in WW2. The Top of the Mark was considered a gay bar and San Francisco was the jumping off place for the Pacific war. The town was full of interesting men. Many of the people were older and a little more sophisticated. Some had already been in Europe and came here with a knowledge of themselves. San Francisco, being the town it is, was very accepting and very welcoming of a gay presence."

"Gay San Francisco in the early '50s was concentrated downtown and in North Beach and when Loomis met the man who would become his lover for 20 years (they're still close friends) they settled in an apartment on Sutter and Taylor.

"It was a respectable gay address in those times. There were endless parties where martinis were the drink of choice. At 5 o'clock every afternoon all our friends knew what they had to do was ring the bell. This lifestyle lead to a lot of alcoholism but from Russian to Telegraph to Nob Hill it was one big party. Young gay people in the city free of restrictions, away from family, forming a gay world. We were one of the forces that helped maintain the city and keep it from falling apart in the post war exodus."

### The gay beat

Loomis and his lover were part of the "beat generation"

mer of love.' We knew it was coming because all across the country the hippy communications system had been promoting the idea of going to San Francisco for the summer.

"One group was planning medical services and because I had worked with lots of social agencies and was on the board of governors for United Crusade, the first thing I knew I was part of the organizing group for the Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic. We opened in June of '67 and on the first afternoon someone came up with a cut foot and we never closed. The place stayed open day and night for the next three months. For the next 7 years I served as chief psychologist."

### Professor emeritus

Because of his work in the Haight, Loomis was tapped by the Nixon administration as a consultant to the White House on drug abuse. In the '80s he was appointed by the Board of Supervisors as Chairman of the SF Council on Drug Abuse Advisory Board and was on the founding board of Operation Concern. He was involved in both SIR (Society for Individual Rights) and The Wednesday Forum, a short-lived gay rights group that became a transitional organization between SIR and the clubs that would later come to dominate local gay politics.

Today Loomis is professor emeritus of counseling and admits to being happy that his long career is in the past. He's spending retirement traveling and enjoying the city that's been his home for nearly 50 years. He even faces the possibility of life without a partner with quiet good cheer.

"You get to a point where there are no suitable suitors. When you're in your 60s, it's difficult to develop relationships and I've stopped attempting to do that. There comes a time when you don't keep room in the sock drawer anymore."

"A lot of my friends were younger and they've either moved away or died. At the University I began to lose colleagues as they got older and then all of a sudden it was 'I'm losing the boys' to AIDS. Nothing prepared us for this. This is unlike war because there they die on some foreign field. Here we stand and watch. It's not easy."

Still, Loomis, a charming man with an inspiring sense of self, is cautiously optimistic about the future of gay America.

"We've got to get the nation to the point where it accepts the fact that being gay is a status and not a choice. A discovery of self and not something to control... We have more laws and policies on the books today that forbid discrimination and that's good because America is generally a law abiding country. Eventually behavior follows law. But we're going to be fighting these battles for a long time."



### Fag with flag

A well-packed GAPA member proudly waves the Rainbow Flag at last year's parade on Market Street.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

# Wayne Friday: Politics and People

by Dennis Conkin

After Wayne Friday grew restless in 1970 and got his bosses at Kidder and Peabody, a New York City stock brokerage house, to transfer him out to San Francisco, he stayed with the firm for another seven years.

But, Friday laughs, "The day I vested in my pension plan, I told them 'I'm out of here' and went to work in a gay bar."

"That was around the time Paul Bentley bought the 'N Touch. I tended bar there for six years and at the New Belle for three years. Even when I went to work for the city, I still tended bar part time," Friday says.

But, although Friday tended bar and took an active part in the life of the burgeoning gay community in San Francisco, he had an unrealized though life-long dream: a career in law enforcement.

Friday is a criminal investigator for District Attorney Smith.

Polk Street was the center of San Francisco gay life when Friday, like thousands of other gay men who made similar migrations to the heralded gay Mecca, arrived in 1970.

"All the businesses were here. The Castro was just a neighborhood. I remember riding down in the first gay parade, which in those days went down Polk Street. Everything seemed like it was just starting. Gay activism as we know it today was just starting to take hold," Friday says.

And, Friday recalls, like today, there was resistance.

"There were still some problems with the police and the state Alcohol and Beverage Control was watching the bars pretty closely," Friday said. "It's not as popular a street as it was years ago. Drugs are too easy to buy. Polk Street's still a magnet for kids. They come here knowing that they can make a living with their bodies," Friday said.

According to Friday, the real thrust of the '70s gay movement in San Francisco started with the Society For Individual Rights, The Alice B. Toklas Club and the San Francisco Democratic Club, which later became the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club.

"Harvey didn't drink and none of us had any real money, but he'd always come up to the New Belle. He'd show up around 1 a.m. and we'd just stay up all night talking politics. He loved the Grubstake. I wish I had ten bucks for every time we'd hold court there and talk politics until daylight," Friday reminisced.

According to Friday, Milk always had a premonition that he was going to be assassinated.

"I worried about him. We all worried about him. The night before he was killed in November 1977, he was at my house for dinner. The last time I saw him, he was walking out of my house. The last time I talked with him, he said he was going to a meeting at City Hall and they

were going to swear in Don Horanzy."

Horanzy was to replace former Supervisor Dan White who had resigned but changed his mind and wanted his job back. Mayor George Moscone refused.

"I was in the shower when Sweetlips called me and said that Moscone had been shot. Then Carole Ruth Silver called and said Harvey had been shot too. I remember telling a reporter that it was all over. We would have run him for Mayor and everything else. Harvey was a little Jewish fag from New York who nobody could push around. Most of the rest were sell outs," Friday says.

The deaths of Harvey Milk and George Moscone changed San Francisco's progressive political landscape forever—and Wayne Friday will be the first one to admit it.

A friend and fervent supporter of Senator Dianne Feinstein, Friday's used to the bars about his support of Feinstein—from her days as SF Supervisor, through her stint as Mayor to her seat in the Senate.

But, even while he laughs at the jokes, he's forthright about his assessment of Feinstein.

"In my mind she's the best Mayor San Francisco's had. But, Moscone may have been better had he lived longer," Friday says.

Appointed to the Police Commission last year by Mayor Frank Jordan, Friday says although he realizes "Jordan has some real problems in the lesbian and gay community," he believes the Mayor has great deal more political support than many people realize.

"There was a celebration at the Gangway a couple weeks back. It's the oldest gay bar open in town. The Mayor was there an hour—and he was so well received that he didn't want to leave," Friday said.

Friday said that when he was originally offered a post as Police Commissioner, former Commissioner David Detrich, who had resigned because he was ill, urged him to accept.

"It's been a real experience. The police department is a good department. It needs more officers. But the days of cruising sweeps by police in the Castro are over. We have an excellent force with really good cops. This town is far above all other cities in gay and lesbian police relations," he says.

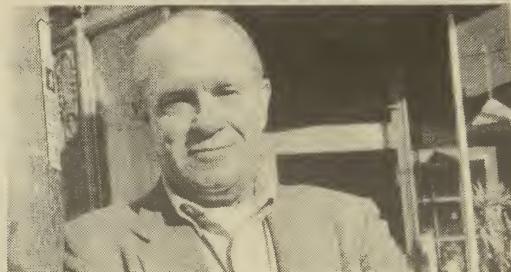
And, Friday, who has been political editor for the *Bay Area Reporter* ever since Harvey Milk stepped down from his post as columnist to run for office, says that he has no plans to give up his column.

"In 16 years, I've never made a retraction and I've never been sued. That doesn't mean I'm right all the time, but it says something," Friday laughs. "Because when you deal with politicians, you're dealing with the most thin-skinned, egotistical self centered people on the face of the earth."

Friday says that San Francisco is a model for the rest of

the world and that much of the local lesbian and gay activism—from political protests to mainstream advances—has inspired the national movement.

"We've come a long way with openly gay congressmen in the federal government that weren't there before," Friday said. "From an openly lesbian councilwoman in Seattle to gay members of the City Council in New York, San Francisco has led the way."



Wayne Friday in front of Twin Peaks bar. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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## Maggi Rubenstein: Bisexual Activist Pushes the Boundaries of Desire

by Susanna Trnka

As one of the founders of the San Francisco Bi Center in 1976, Maggi Rubenstein has been at the heart of Bay Area bisexual activism from the very beginning. "At that time the Bi Center was being run out of co-founder David Lourea's home. We were providing one of the first places where bisexuals could go for services like rap groups and counseling," Rubenstein recalls.

Rubenstein's professional interest in the field of sexuality began in 1971 when she started working as a therapist and sexologist. In 1972 she started the San Francisco Sex Information Switch Board.

Today, alongside her continuing psychotherapy practice, she focuses her attention on promoting acceptance of "all kinds of sexual minorities such as prostitutes, transsexuals, and practitioners of S/M."

Rubenstein first came out in 1969 when she vocalized her concerns over the silence surrounding bisexuality to her fellow members of the Center for Special Problems, an organization which at that time was primarily devoted to dealing with issues of sexuality.

"I'm pretty defiant and I like to take charge and be honest about who I am, but it was pretty scary," Rubenstein admits. "I cried, I sweated. Some of the staff loved it, and some of them looked at me like it was gross, but it was a real turning point for me."

Around the same time, Rubenstein came out to her children and to her parents. "My mother said she wished I



"My mother said she wished I was a lesbian because all they do is hug." — Maggi Rubenstein

was a lesbian because all they do is hug... which hasn't exactly been my experience," she remembers.

Since then Rubenstein has been encouraging the acceptance of bisexuality in forums as diverse as CNN and Geraldo. The main barrier, in her opinion, is the number of widely accepted misconceptions and stereotypes of bisexuals.

"But once people are presented with bisexuality directly, once they see me talking about who I am, they are much more receptive," she asserts.

As a therapist, Rubenstein strongly believes that one of the primary goals for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transsexuals should be improving their self-image. "The more people feel good about

who they are, the more accepting they would be of other sexualities," she claims.

When asked where she thinks the queer community should focus its energy and activism, Rubenstein unequivocally answers, "Love. We need to put more into loving ourselves and loving each other," she explains. Rubenstein believes that we need to honor the role of love not only on a personal level but on a political one as well.

"We need to be willing to grow and to give to each other. And we also need to do what we love to do in the struggle so that we don't burn out and drop out," she states.

The greatest hurdle for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender movement, in her opinion, has been the AIDS crisis. "If more bank presidents were getting AIDS, you can be sure we would have a vaccine by now," she declares.

But the most difficult part of the community is "the internal struggles, primarily the struggles between gay men and lesbians and between lesbians and bisexual women." She recalls the friction around bisexuals joining the Gay Freedom Day Parade. "Some people told me 'have your own parade,'" Rubenstein relates, "and I answered that separate isn't equal."

The bond between gays, lesbians and bisexuals, in her opinion, lies in fact that "we share a common denominator in our willingness to feel good about our erotic feelings for people of the same-sex."

She credits Phyllis Lyon and Dell Martin for promoting a sense of inclusion and cooperation between lesbian and bi-

sexual women. She commends them for demonstrating "how it's possible to deal with our differences within the family and provide a united front."

Politically, Rubenstein finds cooperation between lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transsexuals essential. As she puts it bluntly, "There is sexual fascism in this country and we all have to get past the dichotomies and struggle together against people who want to kill us all."

Rubenstein hopes that in the end the variety of people within the queer community will be recognized as one of its strengths and not considered a source of weakness. "Because of its diversity, the gay, lesbian, bi, transsexual community can show the world how to overcome its fear of difference." ▼

Age: 63

Significant Other: a number of special people, but no single partner

How long in Bay Area: born here

First Queer Protest: Gay Freedom Day Parade in 1972, Briggs Initiative demos in 1974

First Queer Organization: Board of Council on Religion and Homosexuality in 1973

Her Role Models: Eleanor Roosevelt, Amelia Earhart, Margaret Sanger, Susan B. Anthony, Margaret Mead, Kinsey... (the list goes on)

Role Model's for youth today: David Lourea, Cynthia Slater (both bisexual activists)

Favorite Quote: "To thine own self be true."

*T-Shirt Designer and Veteran of '70s Castro, John Cailleau*

## Bodies as Billboards

by Ben Shepard

**J**ohn Cailleau was one of the first people to get back to me regarding a flyer I sent out requesting interviews with PWAs. When we met in person he immediately struck up a conversation about the days when AIDS was called GRID and people thought it came from poppers. Of all the interviews I have done for my oral history project on long-term HIV survivors, my interview with John proved to be the most historically interesting. His recollections of the liberation movement of the '70s poignantly demonstrate how elements of resilience, tragedy and celebration walk hand-in-hand in San Francisco's gay and lesbian community.

Cailleau's account of his early Castro days begins with a recollection of his own coming out. "After many years of pent up yes and no impulses, it was finally time to come out. All the way through college I was deep, deep, deep in the closet. Then in the sum-

mer of '69 — the same year the Stonewall thing happened — I pushed myself out of the closet via a radio free-speech message. The pent-up energy of some 10- to 15 years had been sitting there with a cap on it and finally the closet door comes off and I'm in San Francisco. After 17 years of foreplay there has got to be a release.

"I came to San Francisco to become a professional fag-got. I say that because I was doing so much advocacy work that it was like another job. I worked in this consulting job for a guy who was doing this thing called 'Keys to the City.' The idea was to keep the gay money within the gay community. It was a coupon book to introduce people to all sorts of gay businesses around the city and it literally was my key to the city. So I got to know all these people and got into projects for events and parties. We found ourselves much like a small town or village."

### White Night riots

"The day of the Dan White

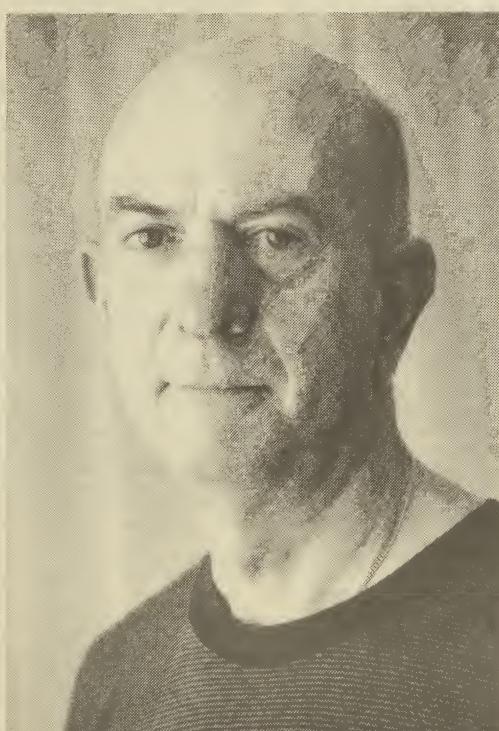
verdict, I had just gotten out of the gym and was at the MUNI station over at Castro and Market streets when I saw Cleve Jones waving

something saying, 'let's go to

City Hall.' I saw in this some

potential for trouble.

"As it turned out, the next night after the riots, because nobody had known the verdict was going to come out when it did, another gathering had been planned. There was either a Harvey Milk birthday or memorial that was already set up and because of the carry over from the night before it had the potential for lots of fistage and flares. I was determined because of the kind of business I had to do something to express my feelings about the Dan White Verdict. And I ended up doing these T-shirts because I was in a T-shirt business by that time. I did these shirts that said 'PLEASE! No Violence' and went down to where the monitors were training for the event. The idea being that there would be all these bod-



John Cailleau: madness takes its toll.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)



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BAY AREA REPORTER

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## PEOPLE AND PERSONALS

VOL. XXIV NO. 24 June 16, 1994

(Photo: Darlene Photo/Graphics)



### Drag is More Than a Dress

## Defining Drag

by Alan Frutkin

**D**rag is an amazing theatrical tool, and that's why I do it," says New York performance artist John Kelly. "It makes people crazy. It pushes their sex button, their morality button and their gender button."

You might not cross-dress. But in this day and age, you've probably come across drag. It's an essential, defining and always controversial element of the lesbian and gay community. As Kelly himself points out, drag underscores the multitude of gender shadings to which we all cling, straight or gay, however, slight or extreme.

And even as drag is embraced by mainstream culture — from Robin Williams to RuPaul — it continues to thrive as a distinctly queer form of expression. In the last 15 years, the art of drag has so thoroughly flourished that there are definitive schools of drag etched into the history of art and entertainment. And four current performers embody the directions that drag has taken.

### Barbette's Feast

Among those performers

John Kelly is one of the most instrumental in defining drag. "It's like painting yourself," he says. "It's about color, and shape, and line, and character."

In December of 1981, at the opening of New York's infamous Pyramid Club, Kelly performed a ten-minute music collage called, *The Martyrdom of St. Sebastian*. Dressed in a short black slip, an upside-down corset, heels, and a "punked-out" red Nina Hagen wig, Kelly played the third century saint whose life ends with an arrow. To the music of *La Traviata's* death scene, Kelly, as Sebastian, front-flipped off of the stage and died. "They loved it," he recalls with glee.

Throughout his career, Kelly has incorporated elements of opera, ballet, fine art and literature into his work. His characters have ranged from the self-created diva Dagmar Onassis to the 1920s transvestite aerialist Barbette, to his recent incarnation of Joni Mitchell. And even though Kelly admits that his Mitchell show borders on camp, he says much of his work eschews humor.

"Why does (drag) have to be funny? Can't it be dramatic, can't it be compelling?"

Maybe it can be all of those things," he suggests. "For me, it's not about tits and ass and camp. It's about me as an actor, challenging myself and playing as many extreme types of characters as possible."

But in challenging himself, Kelly says he is also moving away from drag. "My whole life, I've been trying to figure out what to do with these other parts of me — the fact that I'm a 'sensitive' guy, the fact that women have always been more interesting to me, visually, and the fact that I'm a queer," Kelly says. "For me, dealing with drag was a way of dealing with all those issues, and getting beyond them."

### Dressed for success

Another person who challenges conventional notions of drag is Jon Epperson, perhaps best known as Lypsinka. "I set out to have a career in show business. And I decided the way to get attention was to put on a dress," he says, wryly.

Yet, with photo spreads for *Interview* magazine, numerous appearances on the TV talk-show circuit, and an ad campaign for the Gap, there's more to Epperson's



John Kelly: In search of meaningful tools for metamorphosis.

success than just his clothing.

The character of Lypsinka is based on the 1950s stage and screen star Dolores Gray. However, with near-dizzying sleight-of-hand, Epperson

seems to impersonate dozens of women in his performances.

As he lip-synchs to a sound collage of both music and di-

(Continued on page 90)



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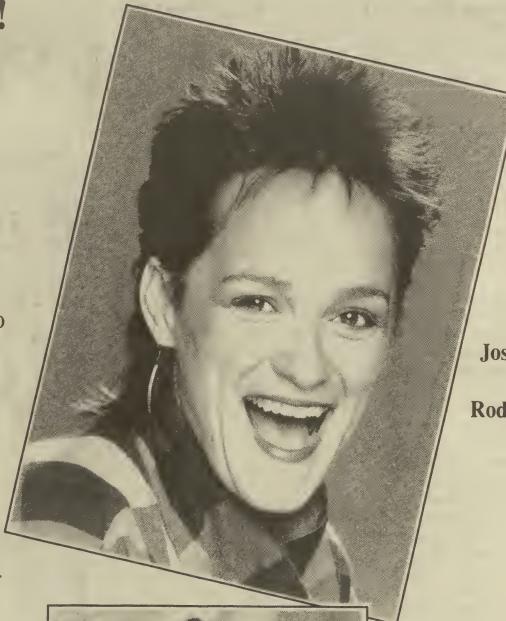
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## APPEARING

Marilyn Pittman, comic

Keith Hennessy, dancer / performer

Sara Felder, comic juggler

Wayne Corbitt, writer

Jose Sarria, the legendary Widow Norton

Rodney O'Neal Austin, performance artist

Karla Gay, impersonator and co-host

Sean Reynolds, co-host

Justin Chin, performance poet

David E. Johnston, theatics

Ney Fonseca, dancer

and the 931 Cloggers!

(left) Justin Chin, (right) Marilyn Pittman, (bottom) Keith Hennessy, (top right) Wayne Corbitt

## OutThere

by Kevin Davis and  
Otter Outrage

Everything's coming up Tony Kushner: At the Tony Awards this week there were two big winners from last year — actor Steven Spinella and playwright Tony Kushner — both from *Angels in America*. It's no surprise that both waxed political in their acceptance speeches. Spinella listed the names of four friends who died of AIDS since last year's awards show, and Kushner observed the anniversary of Stonewall.

Kushner's adaptation of the gender-bending story of a sex-worker turned tobacconist, *The Good Person of Szechuan*, gets its world premiere in August at the La Jolla Playhouse in LA. Kushner, reportedly, is reworking Bertolt Brecht's radical *Mother Courage*. By tackling these collective learning plays, the Bard from Lake Charles is taking on the dialectics of self-abasement and community, the equating of liberation with justice, and the struggle between love and instinct versus cynicism and profit.

In Gotham last week, Sandra Bernhard gave a celebrity reading of Kushner's *Slavs!* to benefit the Lesbian Avengers. And of course, Robert Altman has made the necessary legal arrangements to delay all future film projects so that he can devote himself fully to directing Kushner's *Angels in America*.

Incidentally, Butch Bernhard also stars in *Ann Turner's Aussie flick, Dallas Doll*, in which she moves in with a family and seduces the father, mother and daughter. Sound like Pasolini's *Teorema*? The film premiered at last month's Cannes Film Festival.



Butch Bernhard: Lesbian avenger.

The aforementioned La Jolla Playhouse made news again when its artistic director of 18 years, Des McAnuff was chosen to direct a new biopic on *James Dean*. We can only hope that before McAnuff and the screenwriter start shooting they read the upcoming *Dean bio, Boulevard of Broken Dreams*, whose author, Paul Alexander recently told *Interview*: "From his teenage years, when Dean had his first real sexual experience with his minister, until he died, all the major relationships in his life were with men. So I would argue that Dean's sexual experimentation was, in fact, with women, because the people he lived



Tony Kushner: will succeed the people's playwright?

with, the people he went to for emotional or financial support, were always men." A bevy of boytoys are being scrutinized for the film's lead role.

The inimitable *TV Guide* reports that one of the biggest prima donnas in Hollywood is *Lassie*, queen of the canines. Hoping to feature the famous collie in its story on well-paid pooches in Hollywood, the magazine hit a brick wall in negotiations with his (yes his, he only pretends to be a bitch) publicists and handlers, who insisted on a cover photo, or at the very least, that the story focus on *Lassie* more than the other mutts.

*TV Guide* editors doggedly unearthed this detail about *Lassie's* current working conditions: when he travels, he flies first-class in a reserved seat, often joined by his "companion," a Jack Russell terrier named Mel Gibson. *Lassie* also uses bottled water to wash down gourmet dog biscuits. A dog's life indeed.

Composer Ned Rorem's memoir, *Knowing When to Stop*, hits the stands in September. The book, to be published by Simon and Schuster, will be paired down considerably from its original form, as the publishers, rumor has it, have asked that all the parts pertaining to Rorem's sex life be deleted.

Later this month, Simon and Schuster's audio division will release *Larry Kramer's The Normal Heart* on CD. Listen for Kevin Bacon's voice.

Barbra Streisand, who has bought the rights to Kramer's *The Normal Heart* for a planned film recently bought the rights to another Kramer play, *The Destiny of Me*. "I'm just thrilled at the notion that she may play the role of my mother," Kramer told interviewers upon hearing the news. "That would be the culmination of a lifetime." Really?

In local news, sadly, after 18 months in operation, Artfull Circle Theatre is going dark. According to business partners Mark Sargent and Richard Winchester, the City has asked the theater to build a second, wheelchair-accessible bathroom. The expense, in conjunction with other operating expenses, has proved insurmountable. So, on June 18 the staff of Artfull Circle will hold its final theatrical event at 47 Waller Street, a drag garage sale from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The proceeds will raise money for, let's cross our fingers, future productions.

Capitalism strikes again: Time Inc. has decided not to proceed with the gay lifestyle magazine, *Tribe*. Time Inc. president Robert Miller says, "It's difficult to imagine taking on a magazine that would not make several million dollars annually in profits." But Maer Roshan, former editor of *QW*, who brought the idea to Time Inc., told the *NY Times*, "We are living in gritty times and they call for journalism that comes from the soul, rather than articles that consider what Calvin Klein might think."

A Stalinist of style: *The London Times* reports that Fidel Castro recently entertained designer Pierre Cardin, at the Revolutionary Palace in Havana. Cardin says, "Castro talked for all of two hours. I was surprised how much he knows about fashion. He looked carefully at my suit and the details of my tie and shirt." ▼



Lassie: Still the top dog, except when it comes to Mel Gibson.

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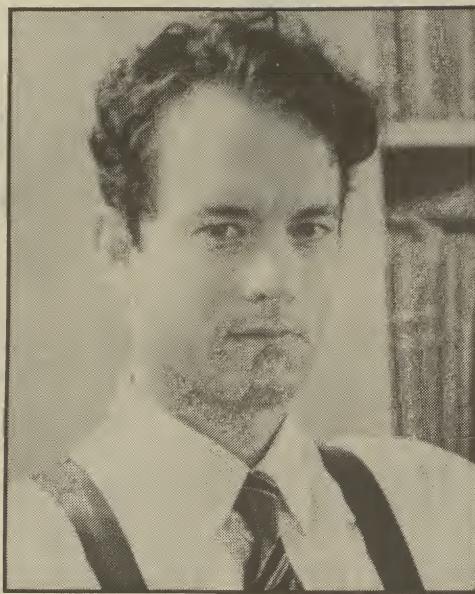
## Film

### A Closer Look at Movies About AIDS

## Eros and Thanatos

by Enrique Asis

**I**t took Hollywood more than ten years to produce its first major movie about AIDS, the 1990 low-budget *Longtime Companion*. With hundreds of thousands of people dead from AIDS worldwide, among them more than 160,000 Americans (many of them in the film industry), Hollywood's official recognition of the epidemic has been limited to the Red Ribbon, an effortless and risk-free symbol of compassion. The reluctance to confront AIDS has been especially amazing in view of the dramatic issues the epidemic has brought to the fore of American consciousness. AIDS is not only a matter of medical and epidemiological data. It is the 1980's reenactment of the mythological battle of Eros and Thanatos, the blending together of issues of life and death, justice and injustice, family and family values, morality and sexuality, representation, political indifference and cruelty, and financial priorities. In other words, AIDS is what good movies should be made of. AIDS, however, forces America to deal with death and homosexuality, aspects of contemporary life that the film industry, like the rest of society, continues to avoid. The film



Tom Hanks: first-rate acting in second-rate vehicle.

industry assumed (wrongly, as it turned out) that gay love, drug use, body fluids, blame, guilt and, above all, death were not the typical recipe to attract sponsors and advertisers. Hesitations and doubts prevented the moguls from

dealing with the drama unfolding within their own community. Their fears and uncertainties are clearly recognizable in the first major Hollywood film about AIDS, Jonathan Demme's *Philadelphia*.

#### 'Philadelphia'

In *Philadelphia* we see the meteoric rise and fall of gay attorney Andrew Beckett (Tom Hanks). After being promoted to junior partner in a successful law firm, he is dismissed for allegedly bungling a case. The real reason for his dismissal, however, is that a partner has realized that Beckett has Kaposi's sarcoma (KS), an opportunistic infection that attacks people with HIV. After nine lawyers refused to represent his lawsuit against the firm, he finally finds an ambulance-chasing, television lawyer, Joe Miller (Denzel Washington), who is willing to take his case. The movie is mostly concerned with Miller's transformation from homophobe to open-minded liberal. Expectedly, Miller wins the case. Beckett dies five million dollars richer and the crying and sympathizing audience is supposedly enlightened about AIDS. But what *Philadelphia* has to say about AIDS is never made quite clear. "This is not a movie about AIDS, really," Washington told an interviewer in a recent article. And he was right. This is a movie about a courageous black lawyer taking on a powerful white firm. TriStar, the film company that made *Philadelphia*, hyped the movie on two fronts, and in two different ways. It was marketed, noticeably, to the gay press as a courageous and controversial film. In mainstream papers, however, it was marketed as a courtroom drama. "It was made for an audience in Dubuque, Iowa, not for one in Greenwich Village," explained Tom Hanks. In order to appeal to what Hollywood, condescendingly, thinks Dubuque audiences want, pro-gay references in the film were balanced by anti-gay

comments: indeed every gay-positive image was carefully pitted against an anti-gay one. Thus, for example, when a lawyer for the defense makes a distinction between "innocent victims" who contracted AIDS through blood transfusions and less innocent ones (gays), his outrageous comment goes unchallenged. Furthermore, except for an awkward dance at a party, every visual representation of gay love in the movie (and there were some in the original script) ended up on the cutting room floor. Consequently, Beckett's lover, Miguel (Antonio Banderas), hardly appears on the screen at all. When the two lovers are portrayed alone, for the first and last time, Miguel kisses Beckett's fingers on the latter's deathbed.

The refusal to address gay life also ruins the most powerful scene in the movie. Beckett and Miller are rehearsing for the trial in Beckett's loft, while Maria Callas singing an aria from Umberto Giordano's *Andrea Chenier* plays in the background. Both are transformed by the power of the music. Beckett is crying, hoping against hope that his own death is near, and Miller understands that gay people aren't all that bad after all. Beautiful camera work focuses on their faces, as emotions and ecstasy take over. But then Miller goes home, kisses his infant daughter and crawls into bed with his wife, while Beckett is left alone in his empty apartment, attached to his IV stand. Apparently, the aria's comforting words, "You are not alone. I'll wipe away your tears! I'll walk beside you and support you! Smile and hope!" do not apply to gay life. Only straights have families and homes to go back to, gays are doomed to die alone. Beckett's identification with Callas collapses his persona into *Andrea Chenier's* heroine, whose kiss is the "kiss of death," and who laments, "My body is the body of a dying woman."

#### 'Early Frost,' 'Our Sons'

The shortcomings and timidity of *Philadelphia* can best be illustrated by comparing it to the first two prime-time network television dramas to address gay AIDS — *An Early Frost* and *Our Sons*. Like those films, *Philadelphia's* producers chose to deal with gayness AIDS epidemic. The story concerns Michael Pearson, a young Chicago lawyer who discovers he has HIV. The movie follows Michael's life after his diagnosis, his hospitalization, medical check-ups, his coming out to the family and his relationship with lover Peter, who refuses to be tested for the virus. The major dramatic episodes, however, take place not in the couple's apartment in Chicago, but in Michael's parents' home in rural America, where he tries to commit suicide in his parents' garage and is saved by his father. A real family drama, *An Early Frost* seems to be telling us, can only take place in real (read: nuclear and heterosexual) homes. As the late film

(Continued on page 102)

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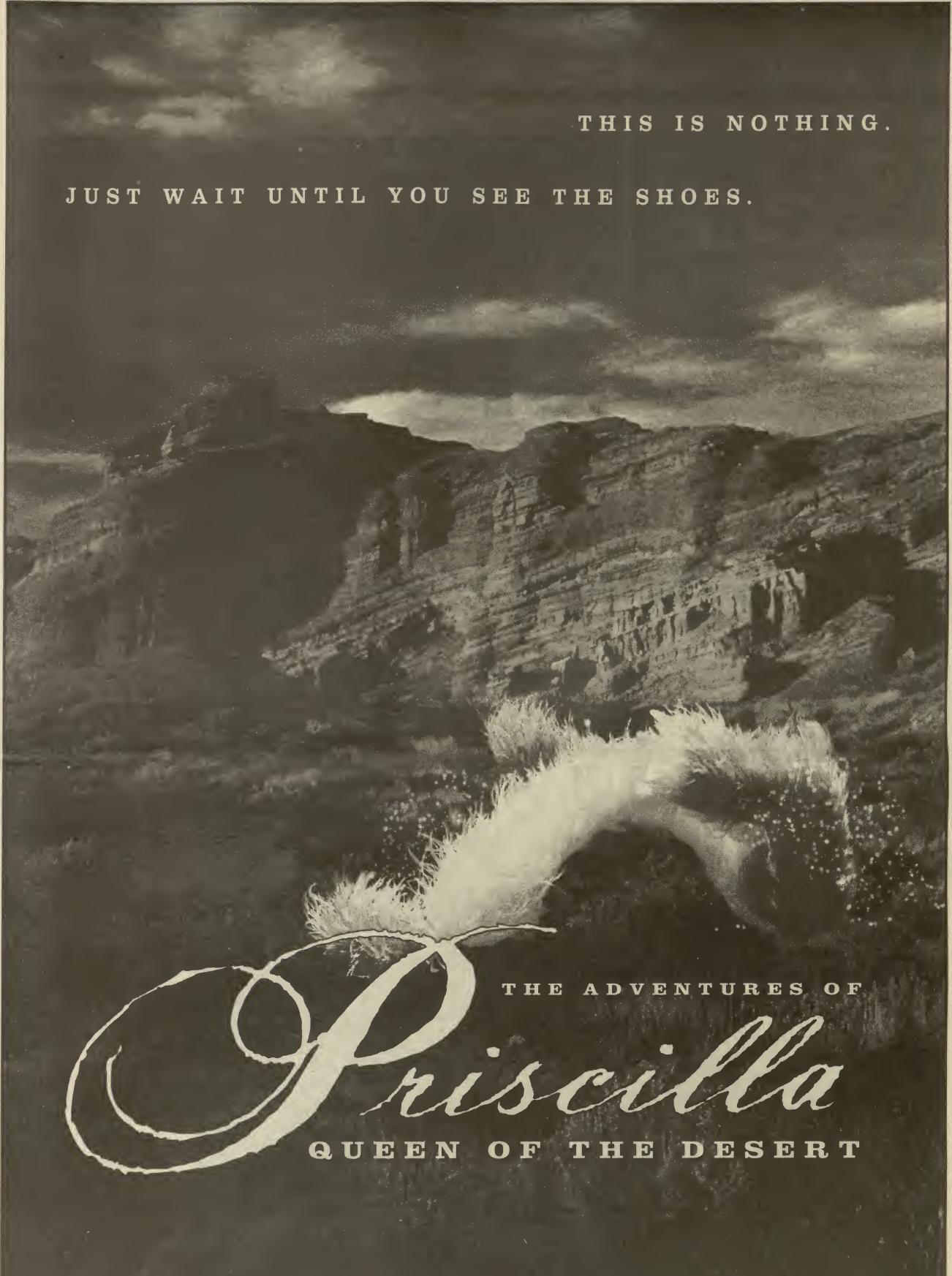
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## Theatre

'The Who's Tommy'

# Empty Pleasures

by Chad Jones

No rock opera has had a longer, or more successful, gestation period than *The Who's Tommy*. Conceived in 1968 by Pete Townshend, *Tommy* has been a concept album, a classical album (with the London Symphony Orchestra), a concert tour (by The Who), a ballet (by Les Grands Ballet Canadiens), a whacky Ken Russell movie (with Ann-Margret, no less) and finally, and most recently, a Broadway musical. After a hugely successful, multi-Tony award-winning bow on Broadway last year, the '90s version of *Tommy* has hit the bus-and-truck circuit and has set up its spinning pinball machine at the War Memorial Opera House.

Among the inducements that have made this musical a legend, *Tommy* offers Townshend's pulsating, powerful



Robert Mann Kayser and Roger Bart in *The Who's Tommy*.

rock score, a compelling premise about the life of a deaf, dumb and blind boy and an inscrutable plot. Where this stage version of *Tommy* differs from all other incarnations

is the spectacular staging by director Des McAnuff, who also directed on Broadway, and his dazzling team of designers. From the dizzying opening sequence in which

we are transported through a courting, a wedding, a wartime separation, a bombing raid and a murder, all in a matter of minutes, the intent of the evening becomes clear: it's a feast for the eyes and ears, but don't ask too many questions.

To distill the essence of *Tommy* is a futile exercise. Even with revisions by Townshend and McAnuff, it's still difficult to discern just what all the fuss is about. The show starts off with a serious, weighty tone: a four-year-old boy witnesses an act of violence perpetrated by his parents, and as a result, he is rendered deaf, blind and dumb. As young Tommy Walker ages, he suffers sexual abuse at the hands of his Uncle Ernie, physical abuse from his cousin Kevin and any number of indignities in the form of medical tests and miracle cures. *Tommy's* only solace comes from the reverberating refrain he hears when staring at his own reflection:

"See me, feel me, touch me, heal me."

Then Tommy discovers pinball. His life and the plot of the musical are irrevocably altered. The flashing lights and ringing bells bring Tommy out of his autism and into a world of celebrity, the caliber of which could only be compared to a rock star. *Tommy* ultimately renounces fame and reconciles with his abusive family.

### Confused

With the introduction of pinball, *Tommy* gets silly. Townshend's music is consistently great, but the plot mechanics of the second act are so contrived as to bleed most of the real emotion out of the show. What should be a triumphant climax merely assures us that we can't get any more confused. In essence, *Tommy* is loud, powerful, visually stunning, emotional and empty. It truly is a rock musical — one that's easy to love, even if only for its sheer grandiosity.

In an effort to give the proceedings some sort of meaning, it's easy to try and see the whole production as some kind of metaphor. After all, an artistic enterprise as captivating and entertaining as *Tommy* must be about something. Without stretching the imagination — or Townshend's plot — too much, gay audiences should have no difficulty reading the show as a metaphorical coming-out cycle. Consider this: in his childhood, Tommy is rendered deaf, dumb and blind by his parents' demand that he deny the truth. Though his inner self is protected by the shell of his infirmity, his body is soundly abused by those around him. When the boy finally comes out, he revels in his newfound freedom, becomes alienated from his family, basks in the adoration of his newfound community, eventually becomes too immersed in his new world and finally returns to his family with forgiveness and acceptance. Probably not what Townshend had in mind, but then again, part of the joy of *Tommy* is trying, however vainly, to grasp something more meaningful beneath its visceral pleasures.

As the protagonist, former MTV VJ and Sunnyvale native Steve Isaacs imbues the older Tommy with an earnest energy, but like most of this able, appealing cast, he doesn't matter much. The real stars of the evening are the score and the staging. For every good performance — Kenya Ramsey as the Gypsy or Jessica Molaskey as Mrs. Walker — there's an equally dazzling technical moment. Nothing quite compares to the razzle-dazzle spectacle of the show's opening, but Tommy's manic ride on a bucking, flaming pinball machine comes close. John Arnone's sets are full of surprises, and Wendall Harrington's sophisticated, intricate projections lend a cinematic fluidity to this quickly paced, theatrical equivalent of a music video.

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## Theatre

*Kevin Killian and 'Flophouse'*

# Celebrity Consciousness

by Roberto Friedman

For five years now, San Francisco poet, novelist and playwright Kevin Killian has been writing odd and antic plays, and staging them at galleries and alternative art spaces around town. They are performed by a faithful ensemble of artists, writers and underground stars of San Francisco — by a cross-section of talents who are not trained actors — collectively known as Poets Theater.

Together, these troupers give life to Killian's creations, which typically take up media celebrities of the day — Klaus Von Bulow and Joey Buttafuoco, Federico Fellini and Harvey Keitel — and cross their paths with literary figures like Jack Kerouac or Alfred Chester. Killian admits to a fascination with mainstream celebrities (he watches E! Channel) but adds, "I like to mix them up with more *recherche* personalities like Laura 'Riding' Jackson," an obscure modernist poet from T.S. Eliot's generation.

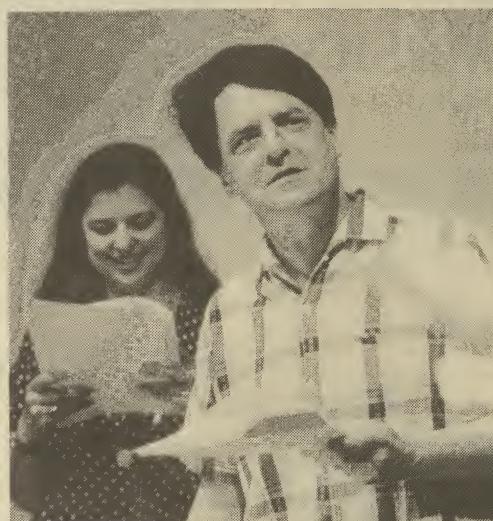
This obsession with popular culture, as filtered through a poetically perverse comic imagination, continues with Kevin's latest play, *Flophouse: The First 60 Years of the Lab*, which played as part of the alternative arts space's tenth anniversary celebrations earlier this month. Through a series of plot developments too complex to recount here, the play catapulted us to the year 2044, when the Lab is the only remaining arts institution left in America, and the only survivors of a nuclear holocaust are celebrities with three names. Think David Lee Roth. Think Soon Yi Previn.

The scenario gives Killian and Poets Theater regulars plenty of opportunity to skewer big-name stars: here's artist Jonathan Hammer hammering it up as Daniel Day Lewis, Cliff Hengst pompos to the nth degree as Andrew Lloyd Weber, *ReSearch* editor Andrea Juno doing her patented Valleypeak as "the youngest star" Jennifer Jason Leigh.

Fun as it is to watch Laurie Amat's Olivia Newton-John struggle for a comeback ("I know I was once adored, perky, lesbian and middle-aged. But who am I now?") or Erin Courtney's deluded Mary Tyler Moore (who is told the brutal truth: "Dear, it's been a long career, but now it's over"), the real heart of the play is decidedly homebred. *Flophouse*'s Lab-based premise means that Kevin gets to direct his wit at the local arts scene.

Thus we get Margaret Crane playing up arts administrator hubris as Lab Executive Director Laura Brun. Lab Assistant Director Michelle Rollmann, Philip Horvitz and Dodie Bellamy play themselves. Wayne Smith plays Kevin Killian. In Kevin's most trenchant send-up of recent Lab programming, Norma Cole plays French performance artist Orlan, who alters her body through plastic surgery as a critique of art history. As a wealthy art pa-

(Continued on page 95)



Kevin Killian and colleague.

(Photo: Marc Geller)

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Playwright/Performer Han Ong. Photo by Dolores Chavez

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"Hagedorn and Ong strike powerfully jagged, melancholic chords . . ."

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## Theatre



Playland.

### *Athol Fugard's 'Playland'*

## Conscience Laid Bare

by Jerry Metzker

All of Athol Fugard's plays give metaphorical expression to the tortured political climate of the playwright's South Africa. His characters struggle with dramatic situations that speak eloquently of a nation's attempts to grapple with change. Fugard's newest work, *Playland*, currently receiving its Bay Area premiere at the Magic, is yet another example of the playwright's multi-layered dramaturgy. Not only does the play reflect recent events in South Africa, but it's also a thrilling and rich expression of Fugard's language and dramatic skill. The Magic's production is blessed by Benny Sato Ambush's clear direction, and the performances of Michael Chinyamurindi and Robert Ernst are powerful.

Chinyamurindi is Martinus Zoeloe, a black nightwatchman and handy man for a traveling amusement park. While minding his own business and pondering the weight of his own past, Zoeloe is accosted by Gideon le Roux (Ernst), a white veteran of South Africa's border war with Namibia. Le Roux is desperate to have his sins exonerated, or die trying. Where Zoeloe would prefer to accept his fate placidly and willingly (he's benumbed by years of pain and confusion), le Roux is a live-wire, sizzling and sparkling dangerously, hoping and praying to be reconnected, or put out of his misery once and for all.

During the three scenes of the play, the duo spar and cajole each other until a final

dangerous confrontation wherein le Roux demands that Zoeloe either forgive him or kill him. Although the final scene runs too long and is a bit heavy-handed, the play is thoroughly engaging nonetheless.

Fugard has clearly placed his action in a context — an escapist fantasy world on New Year's Eve — where 1989 passes its torch to 1990. The characters watch a glorious sunset, wade through a dark night and greet a new dawn.

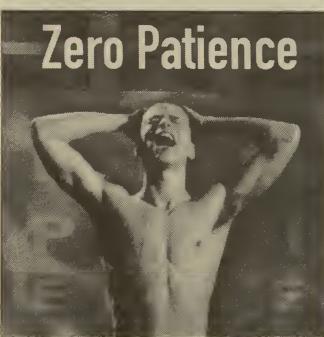
To watch this play is to embark on a sumptuous visual journey. John Wilson's set is quintessential Fugard with its desert-like calm under the constant threat of danger. This is a hard world in which to live, a world of bare essentials, dirt and grit. The set is superbly lit by Jeff Rowlings, who turns the action of the play into expressive poetry.

Fugard doesn't disappoint. As the characters watch the sun rise, the night passes like a long, exhausting dream. The first day of the New Year greets characters who are the same as before and different. The battles, both personal and racial, have concluded, and the new day is just another day. At the same time, the characters have begun a new and different journey. As in South Africa with its recent election, Zoeloe and le Roux advance here into a time of healing. How Fugard captures these things within a narrative fabric is a joy to experience. ▀

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### 'Pants Down at Armageddon'

## Orwellian Homovision

by Jerry Metzker

In William Holst's new play, *Pants Down at Armageddon*, the third and final offering of the inaugural season of Restless Pens - Gay and Lesbian Playwrights Festival, the year is 2000, and the world sits on the brink of chaos. The United States has deteriorated into a police state where, among other things, secret police can arrest anyone at any time for being a suspected homosexual. Matt (D. Jonathan Fahey), a successful writer of

the hit TV show, *The Messiah Debates*, is a gay man who is deeply horrified that the conservatives might catch on, ruthlessly interrogate him, and, finally, send him to a dreaded rehabilitation camp. He hires Glen (Daniel Eppard), a trained marine and the epitome of proper heterosexual machismo, to come to his apartment and strengthen him for the inevitable.

Holst has written some fascinating material in the scenes between Matt and Glen, and under David Hill. (Continued on page 90)

## Dance

ODC/SF Dances at Yerba Buena

### Eclectic Pleasures



by Eric Hellman

**I**t was such a pleasure, even a miracle of sorts, to see ODC/San Francisco dance at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theatre last Thursday. For me, this event officially marked the fulfillment of a decades-old dream for our local dance community: a performance space that is centrally located, physically engaging, technically well-equipped and blessed with great sightlines. There simply is not a bad seat in the house!

It was also gratifying to see the ODC dancers expand into the ample dimensions of the Center's stage. In the past, the company has looked cramped and thoroughly out-of-place, dancing on the Herb- st Theatre's tiny stage.

Directed by veteran Bay Area choreographer Brenda Way, the ODC performers simply soared at Yerba Buena, revealing a remarkable blend of strength, athleticism and good-humored delight. It's exceedingly rare these days to encounter modern-dance troupes that communicate such pleasure in their art. And uncommon, too, to witness a group where movement (not talking, or projected visuals, or props) is the chief artistic medium. On both accounts — pleasure and dancing — ODC defines itself as San Francisco's most engaging modern dance ensemble.

In addition to the company's overall skill, the repertoire for Thursday's program (highlighted by three pieces choreographed by Way) was astonishingly diverse and included a serious, almost dream-like tribute to Amelia Earhart called *Falling in Place*; an oddly angst-filled

duet set to Mozart's "Clarinet Concerto in A" (K622); and a vibrant, Afro-Cuban suite of show dances called *Under the Jaguar Sun*.

The only problem inherent in Way's eclecticism was the lack of any obvious sense of personal style — or moral or aesthetic conviction. Thursday's program was thoroughly entertaining, but it never clarified the choreographer's position as an artist; nor did it suggest any particular reason for ODC to exist as an artistic entity.

*Falling in Place* is a highly imagistic, almost quirky, piece. It begins and ends with voice-over excerpts from Earhart's flight diary. The dance includes a number of interludes for non-flying women and these dances, verging on the comic, if not ironic, made me uncomfortable, as they seemed to belittle the homemaker role that many women play. It was also hard to not notice the similarities — thematic and otherwise — between this piece and Paul Taylor's hugely successful *Company B*.

From a similar perspective, Way's obliquely entitled duet, *Part of a Longer Story*, uses the same music by Mozart that Lar Lubovitch recently choreographed, creating one of the most significant odes to male-male friendship in the contemporary dance repertoire. But, perplexingly, Way seems to have not really listened to Mozart's music — it's extraordinarily generous, expansive and elegiac in mood. And in a bizarre twist of events, Way finds sexual tension and interpersonal angst in the steps for her two solo dancers (KT Nelson and Robert Moses). Perhaps there is something in the "bigger story" that we all need to be told?

(Continued on page 93)

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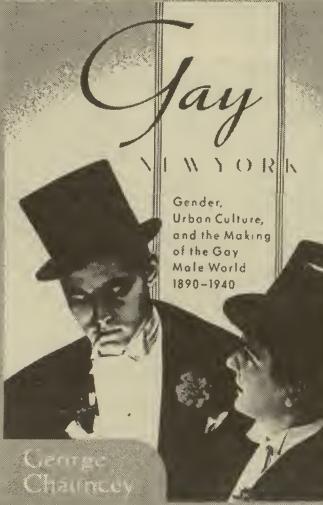
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## First Person

## Drag

(Continued from page 81)

logue (culled from his own prized audio collection), Epstein's ever-changing hand gestures and facial expressions enable him to reference almost every known female icon of the late 20th century. To watch Lypsinka is to experience a kaleidoscopic tour of popular culture.

of popular culture. Still, Epperson doesn't impersonate women as much as he channels them. His performance is a quick nod to the audience, whose members are just as attuned to his iconography as he is. It's a luxury he attributes to technology.

"There's just so much information, and it's presented in such a clipped, succinct manner nowadays," he says. "It would be interesting to know if I was doing this 25 years ago, whether or not the audience would appreciate that kind of referencing. I just think it's the way life has changed for us in the past 20 or so years."

## The male actress

THE BOSTONIAN

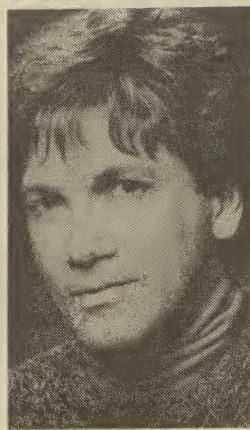
tor/playwright Charles Busch brings to his work a distinctive Broadway flair. "My plays are very much old-fashioned melodramas," says Busch. "I'm a big student of 19th century theater."

Combining satire with suspense, and slick production values with old world theatrical gimmicks, Busch has produced a series of modern-day camp classics that reveal his love for Hollywood and the theater. Titles in his repertoire include *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*, *Psycho Beach Party* and *The Lady in Question*.

Of course, at the center of these self-penned works is Busch himself, playing the waif, the grande dame, the femme fatale. But even as he sends up Hollywood, Busch is quick to point out that he never sends up women.

Although feminists have charged some male-to-female drag performers with misogyny, it is an accusation that all three artists reject. In fact, Busch adds that it's rare when any drag is meant to be misogynist.

"Some drag is so coarse



Charles Busch

Navratilova, "M-A-R-T-I-N-A" and "Bull Dagger Swagger," a song that honors "butch" pride.

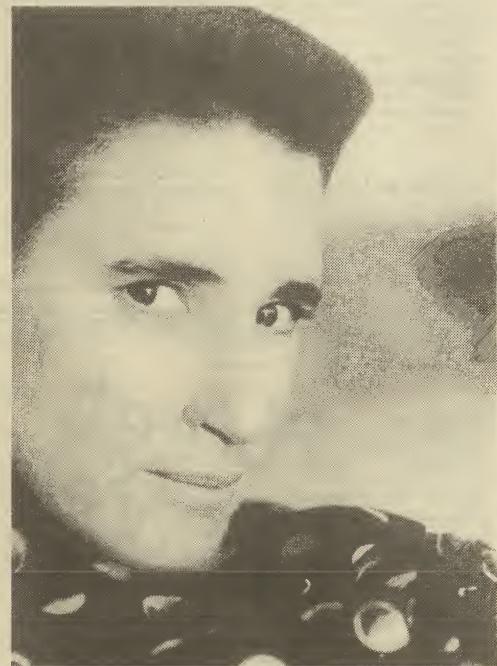
In 1989, Phranc attended a Canadian folk music festival, where she took part in a workshop called "The Worst Song I Ever Learned." One of the songs she brought to that workshop was Neil Diamond's "Solitary Man." "People thought it was hysterical," she says. "Here was this dyke doing 'Solitary Man'."

In 1992, she began touring a full-fledged Neil Diamond show under the title *Hot August Phranc*. Decked out in an open-collar polyester shirt to reveal a chest full of hair (it's called a chest toupee), Phranc exudes a hip-swiveling machismo that reeks of testosterone.

But drag is still new ground for women. Although some say it is more difficult for women to physically portray men, Phranc takes issue with such observations, saying, "Look at what a hard time they've [women] have had just being themselves.

"For women to do drag, I think it would be like just another barrier to knock down in the world of performing. Whereas with guys, it's always been acceptable — just to even try it out for a goof, for a school play, just to put on a pair of tits for a frat party," she says. But she adds, "The door doesn't swing both ways. I think more women haven't done drag because it's dangerous."

But drag — in any form — is still subject to scorn, from without and within the queer community. And, sadly, the threat that drag continues to pose inside the community takes on greater meaning with each anniversary of Stonewall. Because even as we honor those drag kings and queens who first fought the cops back in 1969, today drag has been marginalized by the swelling ranks of conservative gays who now deem the drag image inappropriate. Artists like Kelly, Epperson, Busch and Phranc remind us of drag's transformative powers. And in that recognition, drag can never be sidelined. ▼



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## Music

### Taking the Fifth

by Adrian Roberts

Fifth Column  
36C  
K Records

On Fifth Column's third album, the famed Toronto dyke trio seems to be taking to heart the credo "Celebrate diversity" — in their music, anyway, if not with their attitude, which seems to be just as dyke-separatist and anti-hetero as ever.

Last year's ferocious single, "All Women Are Bitches," opens the record with a heavy-handed slam directed at those missing that extra X

chromosome. All grungy guitars and scratchy vocals, this angry rant spews bile in its depiction of a father's misogynist chat with his son. Deliciously vicious, with more than just an ounce of truth, it pummels the listener with its punk rock fury.

While this first track certainly rocks, it would be boring if every other song on the record sounded the same. So the rest of 36C settles down a bit, varying the pace with a fairly interesting mix of both slow and fast numbers. "Your Love Glows in the Dark" practically sways, and my favorite track, the near psychedelic "Schizocrush," is augmented by Caroline Azar's eerie organ-like keyboards, which flesh out the sound considerably, giving the band some needed musical depth.

Way cool Olympian Donna Dresch, who now fronts her own band, Team Dresch, helps the trio out on bass and gets a love song written about her in the process. "Donna" is a quirky little pop ditty that is one of this album's highlights.

The relatively clean production here gives the band a crisp, punchy sound that sets them apart from their Riot Grrrl contemporaries. But then again, seeing as that they've been doing this for almost 10 years now, it's not surprising that they'd get it right eventually. This is by far Fifth Column's best release to date, owing much to the fact that musically they're not afraid either to genre-bend or slow things down a little.

**Stone Fox**  
**Burnt**  
Piece of Mind Records

And in the "local kids make good" department comes this bristling gem of a CD from San Francisco's own hip indie label, Piece of Mind.

If there was ever any doubt about Stone Fox's potential for success, then this stunning debut completely shatters it. Linda Perry is a big fan, and if 4 Non-Blondes can get signed to a major label, there is no reason why the same couldn't happen for Stone Fox.

This fivesome has everything going for it: good looks, the right attitude and musical talent to boot! This mostly female band (their drummer is self-described as "vaginally-challenged") knows a thing or two about chops, and believe me, they know how to use



them. Lead singer Jorjee belts out these tunes with gusto, varying her style from a low, gutsy growl to a smooth, syrupy alto, depending on the mood.

The music varies also, from the blistering rock of "Crush Yer Head" to the acoustic "Embalmed Me." And along the way there are a few songs about dildos and drag queens thrown in. What's not to like?

The only disappointing thing about Burnt is that it's just too damn short! Clocking in at around a measly 27 minutes, you don't get much bang for your buck. Instead, this record is more like a really interesting and exciting person who shows up at your party, charms the crowd, then disappears quickly — leaving you hungry for more. ▼

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### Tasty Treats for Queer Rock Aficionados

### Wild Weekend

by Adrian Roberts

This weekend is a queer rock aficionado's wet dream: three nights and one day of some of the best live music queer San Francisco has to offer. Weekends such as this need to happen more often.

Starting things off is a great show at the Paradise Lounge on Thursday. If you haven't seen the new-and-improved Bambi Lake, then you're in for a surprise. Having forsaken her old cabaret act, Bambi has refashioned herself as a rock goddess, and, strange as this may sound, it works. Fronting her own band, Ryan's Daughter, Bambi has finally come into her own — another life saved by rock 'n' roll!

Not to be confused with Bambi's new band, Van Gogh's Daughter, is also on the bill, followed by SF's next big thing, Stone Fox. This band is destined for greatness; check them out now, before they start playing arenas.

The Paradise's Friday night lineup is just as tasty. Sultry chanteuse Veronica Klaus opens the show with

her smoldering takes on torch song "my-man-done-me-wrong-blues" standards.

The evening then gives way to a pair of bands that specialize in what Random Violet's lyricist/drummer Jamie Sambonatsu calls "strap-on cock rock." This is the kind of music that you usually see performed by macho, long-haired rocker dudes. But in the hands of a bunch of dykes, it can take on a whole new meaning.

As is the case with Alcohol of Fame. This group takes the generic band setup — four male musicians and an obligatory "sex symbol" female lead singer — and turns it on its ear. Four dykes play the instruments for AF, and a sexy, good-looking man is on the mike. This band kicks ass, but then what would you expect from a group made up of ex-members of 4 Non-Blondes and Malibu Barbie? Show tunes? And it may just be the leather pants, but Spit plays up his "objectified lead singer" role to the hilt. Singing with melodramatic intensity, he lends a certain majesty to the music, which, though certainly rockin', can

(Continued on next page)

## Theatre

### Armageddon

(Continued from page 88)

brand's direction, the scenes capture an eternity of repressed sexuality, of longing and uncertainty, of suspicion and desperation.

Unfortunately, Holst is not content to channel all of his thoughts and dramatic energy into this situation. Instead, he alternates with scenes set at the TV studio, where a group of indecipherable and annoying wackos work behind the scenes on a ridiculous television series in which contestants attempt to prove they are indeed the Messiah. These scenes, which feature the show's '60s throwback host Mary Jane (Deborah Lam), her prophetic but bizarre daughter Rat (Anthea Fane), the oversexed and childish producer Ivonah (Teresa Strasser), a reactionary government official (George Hunter Produs), and the youthful, singing puppet-

Messiah Jake (Corey Kurtz-Nicholl) are thoroughly ridiculous. Composed of mixed metaphors, indecipherable intentions and annoying performances, the end result is neither cohesive nor believable.

When Holst combines the two portions of the play, allowing Matt's professional life to intrude upon the home life, the intimacy developed in the apartment suffers. Still, Fahy's performance gives Matt an endearing and truthful quality that is always interesting to watch. It is simply too bad that Holst's writing so limits him. Daniel Eppard's Glen makes a convincing transformation from well-trained marine to vulnerable human being, and in spite of some of the worst lines and situations of the play, Kurtz-Nicholl manages to hold his own. ▼

**Pants Down at Armageddon**  
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### ODC

(Continued from page 89)

Lastly, *Under the Jaguar Sun* is a giddy crowd-pleaser, featuring a series of duos, trios and other variations for a cast of ten, set to a commissioned score by John Santos and performed live by his Machete Ensemble. The dancing is exuberant, sexy and intensely physical: ideal material for a dance interlude in any upcoming "Romance in Rio" film. But why this piece was created for a modern-dance troupe escapes me. And that, I believe, is the problem with ODC today.

This appealing ensemble has finally been blessed with a suitable local home and its dancers are simply great. But the repertory, although often charged with individual moments of pleasure, never communicates any particular pur-

**The only problem inherent in Way's eclecticism was the lack of any obvious sense of personal style.**

pose for being. ODC and director Way are still looking for an identity they can call their own. Diversity, in other words, is not always the best policy when trying to shape an artistic agenda that matters. ▼

### Weekend

(Continued from previous page)

at times sound pedestrian.

Your chance to live

Rounding off the night is the acerbic dyke-punk five-some, Tribe 8. This explosive band never fails to disappoint. You haven't lived until you've been in the mosh pit at a Tribe 8 show, and if you haven't had the pleasure, now's your chance.

The DNA Lounge is the place to be Saturday night. Pansy Division gets things rolling by celebrating the release of their second full-length album, *Deflowered*. Filled with the same sort of silly wit and punky pop you've come to expect, it's no wonder they were chosen by MTV darlings Green Day to open for them during their summer tour.

After keeping a somewhat low public profile over the past year, Pussy Tourette appears to be thrusting herself back into the limelight. Inventive and original, she is one of the few drag queens in this city I can watch without cringing. Bluntly put, this chick rocks.

Headlining the DNA bill is the always fabulous Enrique. Although my personal kitsch-o-meter tends to go off the scale whenever I see them, remember that it's not just any

trio that can seamlessly blend together Bonnie Tyler's "Total Eclipse of the Heart" and Styx's "Mr. Roboto" — plus their original material sparkles.

Sunday is, of course, parade day. Numerous bands will get their 15 minutes of fame (that's about the average playing time on the Folsom and Spear sts. stage). If you

**Pussy Tourette is one of the few drag queens in this city I can watch without cringing.**

prefer original rock music over formulaic disco, then be near the stage from 11 a.m. to noon when Stone Fox, Robbie D., the Bucktooth Varmints and Valerie Statler are on tap. From 4:15 p.m. onward check out the excellent Hail Marys along with Tribe 8 and Pussy Tourette. This is a great opportunity to sample a bit of our burgeoning queer rock scene — and no cover. ▼

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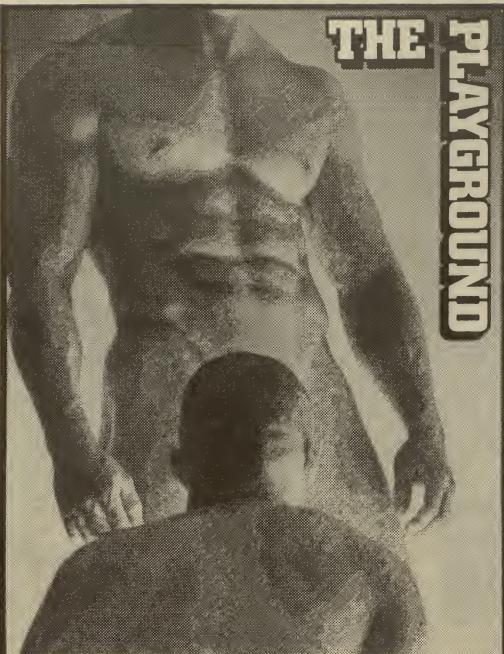
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## Opera

Videos Capture Spirit of 'Die Frau ohne Schatten' and 'Gotterdamerung'

### 'Die Frau' and Nilsson: Good Company

by Paul Thomason

Thanks to technology, opera lovers no longer have to choose between spending a summer vacation at the beach and seeing a highly touted performance of a beloved opera at one of the major festivals. The growing trend of opera on film allows aficionados to, occasionally, do both.

Particularly noteworthy is the recent release of Richard Strauss' *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, recorded live during the 1992 Salzburg Summer Festival. Now available on both London VHS and laser disc, this is the first commercially available video of *Frau*. It was well worth the wait. (Since it is letter-boxed, home viewers can even get a sense of the cinematic dimensions of the Salzburg theater's stage.)

*Die Frau ohne Schatten* (*The Woman without a Shadow*) is Strauss' most ambitious work, but the convoluted, often contradictory symbolism of Hugo von Hofmannsthal's libretto would drive even the most diehard Jungian to despair. However in the last few decades audiences have begun to recognize the opera as the (flawed) masterpiece it is. This performance should win new admirers for the work, thanks largely to the work of Marjana Lipovsek as the Nurse, Eva Marton as the Dyer's Wife and much of Gotz Friedrich's direction. (The English subtitles are a big plus.)

*Frau* is a fetish for me and also, perhaps, my favorite opera. So it is rare I can pass up any recording of the work. But despite shelves bowed with the weight of these discs I have never heard a performance of the pivotal part of the Nurse which even comes close to matching Lipovsek's astonishing portrayal. (She is also on EMI's CD of Strauss's *Elektra* with her *Frau* colleagues Marton and Studer, and is rumored to be debuting with SF Opera soon.)

In most performances, much of the Nurse's music is cut, which is probably a blessing for both mezzo and audience since not only did Strauss give her incredibly difficult music, he also made



Sir Georg Solti.

her part longer than any other. But this musically complete performance only cuts some of the Empress's spoken dialogue in act three, so for once the Nurse assumes her place at the center of the drama. Lipovsek, looking like a witch in a *Star Wars* sequel, is always lurking, sizing up, reacting, manipulating and controlling the action.

**Marton's  
Dyer's Wife  
is the stuff  
of which  
legends are  
made.**

thy that so characterized Walter Berry's performances of the role. As the Empress, Cheryl Studer comes into her own vocally in the last act but is too cool. (If only Carol Vaness had accepted Solti's invitation to do the Empress!) Thomas Moser is a small-scale Emperor.

Solti's conducting is far better here than on the studio recording he made of *Frau* (with a completely different cast) though one occasionally wishes for a bit more lyricism. Given that it is a live performance, the Vienna Philharmonic is truly remarkable.

#### Nilsson in rare form

Solti and the Vienna Philharmonic are also featured on another London video/laser disc, *The Golden Ring*, a BBC film (in black and white) about the recording of *Gotterdamerung*. This has been out for some time but seems to have slipped between the cracks, perhaps because some of the reviews snipped, "Nice, but who would watch it more than once?" Answer: Anyone who ever saw Birgit Nilsson on stage in her prime and wants to relive the magic.

It's a sad fact that the first commercial recording ever of *Gotterdamerung* (made in 1964) has never been equalled by any later performance. But we can be thankful the BBC was there to film some of the sessions, and that they've given us great hunks of the music, most notably the vengeance trio from act two (done twice), and Siegfried's death and funeral music, plus Brunnhilde's Immolation Scene from act three (among others).

It is true there are parts of the film where once is enough, but those parts are easy to skip the second (or twentieth) time around. The treasures found here are wonderful moments of music-making that audiences seldom see during performances. Like Solti suddenly looking up when Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (appropriately) lingers over a word in a quiet passage, and the two exchanging smiles as the music continues.

Best of all is Nilsson. Even the recording team leading a real horse onstage during a take of the Immolation Scene (as Brunnhilde calls for Grane, her horse) cannot distract her from the task before her. In these days of vocal pygmies, how nice to be able to reexperience the giants who were once here. ▼

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## Suppenkueche: The Lighter Side of Germany

**Suppenkueche,**  
525 Laguna St.; 252-9289

by Lee Robbins

In a city of 10,000 restaurants, coming up with new ideas for restaurants is a daunting task. But Suppenkueche on Laguna street is giving it the college try. The concept here is ambitious: to marry the richness and heavy seasoning of German food with the healthfulness and delicacy of California cuisine. The end result may be open to some debate, but the experience is worth a try.

This is a place for *gemutlichkeit* and beer drinking, but it is not the place to go for a quiet evening of sedate dining as the wooden floors, unadorned ceilings and walls, and large plate-glass windows, make for a noisy space.

The space is designed for simplicity and friendliness. Simple wood tables, un-padded wall benches and chairs cluster tightly — you may even be asked to share a table with other guests during busy periods. One caution: if you're sensitive to smoke, you won't find this a comfortable environment as the room is really too small for a non-smoking section.

The menu offers traditional German fare in the \$10 range — blood and liver sausages, smoked pork chops, pork meatballs and goulash with spatzle. In addition, there are seven other meat entrees and two vegetarian choices, roast potatoes with a sour cream herb sauce (\$6.50), and puff pastry with leeks, Gouda cheese and fresh tomato sauce (\$7.50).

We began, of course, with large mugs of draft beer (\$3.75) and a basket of German style breads. The beers had a much wider range of taste than the traditional American varieties. Mine had a distinctly sour taste accented by a slice of lemon while my companion's lighter choice possessed a noticeable flavor of hops.

Breads, which offered a change from the usual San Francisco French and sourdough fare, included a pumpernickel, a light rye and a white with raisins, with dark varieties lighter in taste than typical German fare. All three were quite fresh, and I particularly liked the moist dark rye with its crunchy chunks of whole grain.

We began with two soups and then continued with two of the most traditional Germanic choices, sauerbraten (\$11.50) and Wiener schnitzel (\$12.50). My gemuscreme suppe (vegetable cream soup) at \$3.50 had a strong flavor of fresh cream — the evening's single deviation from lightness — and a mild taste of vegetables with perhaps broccoli predominating. My friend's fresh pea soup (\$3.50 — \$5.50 with sausage) had a clear flavor of well-done peas.

The Wiener schnitzel came with a nice side dish, thin mildly crisp rostkartoffeln (roast potatoes) and several rounds of lemon to squeeze on the schnitzel. My sauerbraten presented three attractively arrayed slices of tender beef, intensely and pleasingly "sour" in taste, and dressed in a good brown gravy. It was served with my favorite Bavarian dish, spatzle or homemade noodles. This delicious dish tastes more like homemade dumplings made without yeast or baking soda than Italian-style pastas. Suppenkueche's version had only the lightest coating of butter.

Pork medallions were tender and served with a light and peppery golden brown breading, once again done with delicacy and little noticeable fat.

Both entrees were served with large portions of fresh salad, which included carrot shreds and German potato salad with chunks of bacon, cole slaw and shredded red cabbage. All were healthy; only mild touches of dressing coated the lettuce while carrots and red cabbage seemed entirely plain. The potato sal-

ad was striking, less oily than traditional, German-style potato salad.

For dessert, we had a choice of two on the regular menu and two specials. We chose the poached pear and apple strudel from the regular menu. The poached pear was more dramatic — a peeled pear, deep burgundy in color, standing upright in a bright red strawberry puree offset by two scoops of creamy vanilla ice cream and a single

sliced strawberry. For my taste, the pear poached in a dry red wine and the unsweetened strawberry puree needed more sweetness, even though they were helped by the ice cream.

The strudel was large but overwhelmed by the cinnamon, which buried the apple flavor. The crust was thin, attractively sprinkled with confectioner's sugar and more soft than crisp.

On the whole, this blend of German and California styles

is an interesting experiment, but it's not fully perfected. I would visit Suppenkueche for its unusual style, good beer, lively atmosphere, healthy food and *gemutlichkeit*, but not primarily for the food — particularly if you're fond of traditional heavy German fare. Certainly the comments of the local residents with whom we shared our table and the obvious popularity of the restaurant attest to the good time, novel atmosphere and low cost that draws people there. ▼

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## Killian

(Continued from page 86)

tron, Ethel Chase remarks, "We collectors are touchy about the facelift issue. Why, the girls at MOMA Collectors Forum think Orlan a rank amateur when it comes to [touches face] uplift."

While *Flophouse* manages to work cyberspace, the Bobbitts and Singapore rebel Michael Fay into its byzantine plot, Kevin is at his sleast when razzing the arbiters of the art world. When the Lab of the future seizes control of both the *Chron* and the *Ex*, replacing art critics Kenneth Baker and David Bonetti with puppets, a cheer goes up in the audience. When Brun gets deluged with calls from three-named personages eager for some Lab exposure, she seethes, "Where were they when I need them for *Art, Vagina, Activism?*"

The playwright sometimes falters when addressing a larger social canvas. An off-hand remark about "heaps of Serbian limbs strung like Christmas lights" is jarring in its apparent regard of atrocity as just more punch-line mate-

rial. Too, the insularity of this world can be off-putting: after all, *Flophouse* is most amusing to those who know who Brun, Killian, Bellamy et al are. Still, these plays, revues for established alternative San Francisco, do speak to larger themes: our national obsession with celebrity, the mystery of self, the difficulty of maintaining the integrity of one's identity in the face of an onslaught of manufactured personalities.

The distinguished cast and audience, as well as the play's relentless name-dropping, sent me off to contemplate who we celebrate in this culture, and why? Unlike some local celebrities, club kids who want to be famous for their social lives, the stars of Poets Theater are well-known for real talents and accomplishments in their field. And Kevin Killian is more than San Francisco's most intrepid autograph hound. Through the generosity of his considerable wit and imagination, he has given our arts and literary community scripts through which we can laugh at ourselves and our twisted society. ▼

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## BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS AND FITNESS

### *Gay Games IV*

## Marathoning By Dawn's Early Light

Rick Thoman

**I**t's 6 a.m. on Saturday, June 25th, in New York City. Athletes and their supporters are staggering back to their hotels after a night spent celebrating a week of camaraderie at Gay Games IV. The humid, stagnant, early morning air is already beginning to heat up as the sun hits the streets of Manhattan. And squirrels in Central Park are on the alert for those "nuts with nice butts," the Bay Area Distance Runners, who are getting ready to run the Gay Games IV marathon.

While most of the athletes will be done with their competition, the marathoners have to control their pre-race anxiety for a whole week following Opening Ceremonies. "We're ready," claimed a confident Dave Studach, Team San Francisco's marathon coordinator and BADR president. "The hard part is going to be getting everyone to sit back and relax."

And, no doubt, they'll have to bypass some of the major parties scheduled for Friday night, June 24th. "We know there's going to be a lot of parties Friday night," explained a somewhat disappointed Studach, "but we won't be there." Instead, the marathoners will try to get their final fits of sleep, if they find they can actually sleep the night before what is — for many contestants anyway — their biggest competition ever.

The GGIV marathon will take place in Central Park, starting and finishing at the famous Tavern On The Green restaurant, and will include several loops in the Park and a stretch along Manhattan's waterfront. This will be the only Gay Games event that will be open to competitors not officially registered for the Games, and there may be close to 1,000 participants. San Francisco will have a team of 50 competitors trying to make their mark at the early morning race.

Studach's goal is to get his teammates to relax. "With a competition like this, one that only comes along every four years, it's easy to blow your wad before your event. We've done the work preparing for this event. Now we just have to stay relaxed and enjoy it."

The marathon team has been preparing for the predicted hot weather. Studach noted that "it's important to drink plenty of water and keep the skin moist." He has also cautioned his team about getting so nervous that they start out too fast and wind up paying the price in the last few miles. "We have to run smart and run relaxed."

### Half Marathon: promising results

If the results from the Bay Area Distance Runners' (BADR) Half Marathon on May 22nd are any indication, the San Francisco team may be coming home with several Gay Games marathon medals. Although Studach has

(Continued on next page)



Run, run, run!

(Photo: Rick Thoman)

## The Challenge of the Gay Games

by Rick Thoman

**A**s the fourth Gay Games gets underway, it's important to remember why the Games came about. This event is more than just a huge gathering of gays and lesbians. It is, in fact, the largest amateur athletic event in the world, ever.

But beyond the numbers, medals and commercialization there are more important issues to keep in mind, ones that can provide positive impact on the gay community.

Dr. Tom Waddell developed the Games to be a source of pride through personal achievement in a community stereotyped as "non-athletic." To all those who've

endured the label "sissy queers" and been excluded from sports events, this is an opportunity to show the world that we are not merely good athletes but very good athletes. World records were broken in Vancouver in 1990. More will undoubtedly be broken in New York this coming week.

The Games have been a means for gays and lesbians to challenge themselves to be the best that we can be. This determination and dedication in the midst of obstacles and self-doubt will not only help us on the playing field but in our personal lives as well. We must continue to use the grit and resolution we derive from sports to combat the ongoing problems facing the gay

community, problems like AIDS, religious and government oppression and social disenfranchisement. We must remain optimistic that we can turn the tide.

Inclusion is also a big underlying theme for the Games. This event is open to all, regardless of sexual orientation, HIV status, age, ability, gender, and all the other roadblocks and prejudicial thinking that have kept gays and lesbians from acceptance by "normal" society.

Keep in mind that you are performing against yourself, urging yourself towards a personal best goal, and not against each other. By accepting the challenge to compete at all has already placed you

(Continued on next page)

## SF Basketball Has Gold Medal Aspirations

by Joe Nelson

The gay men's basketball program expects to repeat its 1990 performance in Vancouver. The stronger team, nicknamed the Pacers, easily won the gold medal in the last games, with an average point margin of 27 points a game. A second team representing San Francisco, the Eagles, will also attempt to repeat its 1990 bronze medal-winning result.

The Pacers are comprised largely of the same team, with several impressive additions. New coach Eliot Kahn hopes to emphasize good teamwork for a team that is a little short in height but talented nonetheless. His returning center is Mike Ambrosano, who reports to be in very good shape. Mike's back-up will be new player Corey Randle, a youngster with great leaping ability. John Woods and Mark Johnson return as forwards. John has just started playing again and is looking good, but Mark has suffered through some knee problems. Mark averaged 25 points a game in Vancouver. New forward, Ray Sears, is expected to surprise a few people in New York with his leaping ability and amazing

ball handling. Michael Mazgai continues to support the team with a consistent baseline jumper from off the bench.

The returning guards are team captain Daryl Morgan and shooter Steve Moore. Both veterans are capable of scoring from anywhere on the court. Newcomer Alex Herrera can provide a lot of offensive spark as well. Dwight Dunn, star of the San Diego program, has chosen to play with the Pacers in pursuit of

### The Pacers are comprised largely of the same team, with several impressive additions.

a medal. Also, Doug McGloten, who played a lot of minutes this last league season, will also be a solid guard.

Though the Pacers easily won in Vancouver, one 6'5" forward has retired and the team has participated in several tournaments without winning any. Additionally, it's

expected that teams from Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York should be more competitive than previously witnessed in previous games. The good news is that the Pacers are significantly stronger than before, so if they play to their potential they should be involved in the championship game. That game is scheduled for Saturday morning at New York University in Greenwich Village.

The Eagles are a less experienced group, though more talented than the Vancouver team. Wes Wilkinson returns as the offensive leader, but he will probably play mostly power forward this time due to greater depth in the middle. Bruce Kottwitz will start at center, and he has a nice jumper from 10 feet along with strong rebounding skills. Jared Anderson, who just moved to SF, will be Bruce's back up. Ray Martinez, Kent Robie, and Ron Johnson are three new forwards, all of whom have excellent ball-handling and offensive skills. Robert Collins, a shorter forward, is expected to hit his surprising jump shot. The guards are newcomers to competitive gay basketball except for tourney veteran

Kevin Powers. Sam Park, Ben Yokoyama, and Marty Dishman will do the ball handling chores and the outside shooting. This team is coached by senior veteran Tony Jasinski, who has coordinated the men's program for eight years.

Two other ballplayers from SF will participate on a regional team. Mark Satre and Jake McDonald represent SF's third chance for medals for basketball. Mark is a strong center and Jake is a point guard, both of whom have played with the Pacers. Rich Brown, former coach of

the Eagles, is also on their roster. Their team is composed of players from Los Angeles and Denver and boasts 15 players.

The local sports program is bound to be well-represented by these players in New York. It is rumored that Governor Mario Cuomo is registered to play for the NY team, and the finals promise to be one of the week's biggest events. The local teams are even planning to host a party for all of the men's basketball teams in the games. All of the results will be published in the BAR. ▼

## Games

(Continued from page 96)

on the road to success, whether you achieve "medal status" or not. Let's not only show the world our athleticism, but our sportsmanship as well.

Gay Games founder Tom Waddell believed that doing one's best, whether or not you won a medal, was the greatest achievement of all. In fact, he originally voiced opposition to awarding the traditional gold, silver and bronze awards at all. At this year's Gay Games, everyone who participates will receive a special medal in recognition of their own personal achievement.

It's no surprise that a majority of the stories coming out of Gay Games will surround the medal winners and record-setters. But don't over-

look the courage and success of those who achieve personal best marks that are well behind the rest of the pack. Success can't always be measured by the color of a medal.

As we embark upon the Games, this is also a time to reflect on those who have brought the Gay Games to this point, 12 years and 10,000 athletes after their inception. We will miss the superlative athletic talent and organizational abilities of so many we lost too soon. But the memories of their achievements spur us on to see the realization of our goals. Their spirits, collectively, continue to replenish the dream of the Games. If we can keep that spirit with us as we enter the stadium for Opening Ceremonies, and sustain it throughout the week, and beyond, then we truly have a chance of making the Games count for something more

than a flexing of muscle. We'll also be flexing our minds. ▼

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## Runners

(Continued from page 96)

stressed to his runners that the emphasis on the Games is for personal achievement, those "personal best" marks could translate into some gold, silver or bronze medals. Certainly if Jeff Mello repeats his winning performance from the Half Marathon — 1-hour, 16-minutes, 54-seconds — he could end up on the victory stand in New York. And equally noteworthy were the national class times of Gary Beuschel, Dianne Swick, Char Levitt, Earling Eia and others who participated in the BADR 1/2 and other May races. Studach is pleased, too, with his "tried and true pluggers who continue to show improvement." Terry Baransky, Pat Simon and Ann Bolick, to name a few.

"Completing your first

marathon or lowering your time are the goals we'll be shooting for," Studach stated.

And what about after the Gay Games marathon is finished? "Most of us are going to take a well-deserved rest," commented Studach. "But we've also got a team geared up to compete in the San Francisco Marathon on July 31st. And in the Fall and Winter we'll be back at some of our traditional favorites like the New York City marathon (on a course quite different from the Gay Games), the Cal International in Sacramento and the Honolulu Marathon."

So if you're in New York and on your way back to your hotel to grab a few hours of sleep early that Saturday morning, stop by Central Park and cheer on the marathoners. Studach says a chorus of "Nice butt!" always does the trick! ▼

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## PARTING GLANCES

Tracy from Candlestick Park - Classic Moustang w/ Virginia plates. We talked few weeks ago on Market street b/w Castro & Noe, while you waited for a parking space. We talked about living in Virginia & Maryland. Then I took off on my motorcycle to go to the gym. You've been on my mind. Please give a call. E.S. EXT 2907.

Discount Lumber on Mission 5/25 - Us in BMW, you on Black Kawasaki. We said hi to you. We followed each other up to Market where we went our separate ways. We'd love to see you. Kirk & Franklin. EXT 2910.

St. Patrick's Church - Mon. 5/23, 1:15pm. I went to church on my lunch break, we looked at each other, I wanted to say something but was too shy. We left at same time, I stopped to smoke a cigarette, we smiled at each other. You: glasses, 5'6", curly hair. Me: 5'5", moustache, Latin. Would like to see you again. EXT 2960.

Joe, Tel. Prefix #750 - You left a message 5/20 for 'Black Hole'. EXT 2779. Your message was

Robin (as in Hood) - We met 5/24 on Super Shuttle from SFO to City. I enjoyed our trip and would love to talk more. You're awesome, I hope you will call me when you want a break from studying. Jim. EXT 3014.

N Touch. Memorial Weekend - You: GWM 5/27, olive t-shirt, 5/28, black tank, 5/29, olive t. Me: GAM 5/27, white tank, 5/28, white polo, 5/29, orange tank. We stayed at each other, but both too shy to say hello. We are both godlooking with hot bodies. Would like to meet you finally. EXT 3015.

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIPS

M-M

Excellent Catch - Very handsome GWM, 27, muscular, very masculine, moustache, honest, caring, affectionate, romantic, intelligent, devoted, down to earth. Looking for very handsome GWM, masculine, stable, well endowed Top, in good solid shape, 25-45, w/ moustache or beard, blonde hair, blue eyes, & good heart for LTR. N/S, N/D. I'm for real, you are too. EXT 2745.

Ready & Waiting - To meet nice, single men, 25-35, for friendship and maybe more. I'm 28, 5'10", GWM, 5/27, 175#, muscular, height, sense of humor. Latin men a plus. Enjoy good music, movies, dancing, beach sports. EXT 2915.

Loving, Romantic, Stable - Artisti, Bottom, VGL, HIV+, 33, seeks similar Top who's tall, masculine, passionate, & stable. I love nature, music, laughter, & art. Bear-type is a big plus! EXT 2965.

Romantic GWM - Intelligent, 6'4", 155#, 52, seeks GM 30+ for friendship. Enjoy skiing, rafting, for real, you are too. EXT 2745.

Looking for Lover? - East Bay GWM 42, 5'10", 175#, blk/bz, HIV, attractive looking for special guy to spend quality time as friend, & possibly more. Should be godlooking outgoing, sincere, romantic, masculine, 28-40, similar height, sense of humor. Latin men a plus. Enjoy good music, movies, dancing, beach sports. EXT 2915.

Masc., Phys. Fit, Very Attractive

Clean cut, intelligent, ambitious

HIV, 30yo, 6'6", GWM looking for

possible LTR w/ similar 28-40 yo

professional. Hairy a plus. EXT 2976.

Looking for Lover? - Me too. I'm a great catch. New to SF.

Goodlooking WM 40s (but look younger), 5'10", 185#, muscular, dk blonde fat top, moustache, very masculine, daddy type. Not into bar scene or 1 night stands.

Am romantic, affectionate, sincere, & professional. Seek similar, hairy &/or beard a plus.

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Looking for Lover? - Me too. I'm a great catch. New to SF.

Goodlooking WM 40s (but look younger), 5'10", 185#, muscular, dk blonde fat top, moustache, very masculine, daddy type. Not into bar scene or 1 night stands.

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# BarTalk Personals

Still only 98 cents per minute to respond!

1-900-844-2227

Available only in the Bay Area on touch-tone phones.  
You must be at least 18 y/o to call.

shape to service my big cock and eat my hot butt. Hung a plus. EXT 2985.

To Everyone who answered EXT 2776 - All my messages were erased. Please try again. EXT 2986.

Teddybear Dad Seeks Bottom Son - Ass massage, light spanking. Spanking will stimulate nerve endings you never knew you had, then on your knees for a long safe ride. Me: attractive GWM, 44, 6'5", 280#, football players build, moustache, hairy chest. You: attractive GWM 18-35, slim, smooth nice buns. You need it bad. EXT 2987.

Have Lover Need Fuckbuddy - Stocky WM Top 36, seeks hot hardbodied HIV+ WM or HM with round butt for long regular fucking sessions. You are 22-35 or look it. Tan lines, Eurasians, and long hair are pluses, but not a must, a great butt is. EXT 2988.

Fat Submissive GWM - Seeks rough tops. I'm goodlooking, 35, 320#, 5'11", big tits, short beard, long brown hair. My ass & throat need hard merciless ramming by aggressive men who'd get off on using me. Love gangbangs being slapped, verbal abuse, etc. Please! EXT 2991.

Cum Enjoy - Deep dark chocolate Black male 140#, 5'10", hung 10". Strictly bottom. Cum play w/ long hot pole, top off w/ juicy hole. Black or Latin only. EXT 2992.

RU Not Well Hung But Have Great Ass? - Then this stocky masculine 6' Top wants to meet you. You should be WM or HM, HIV+, w/ muscular body & round plowable butt & 22-35. EXT 2990.

Boy Toy - 40yo Black, 5'10", 140#, seeking playmate into long heated sessions. Black only, boy pussy for your enjoyment. EXT 2993.

Young Eurasian Bottom Sought - By hot 36yo, hairy white Top, 6', 215#, Brandon Lee, Keane Reeves look alike; but 18-35, healthy, HIV+, with round butt and tanned body. EXT 2998.

Sex in the 90s - Black Male 40, 140#, hung 91/2", 5'10". Seeking Black male, muscular, top only. Into safe sex and toys. Cum lets play. Signed, Horny. EXT 2994.

Looking for a Hot Young Boy - This 51yo is looking for hot boys within SF area for J/O and to suck and fuck me. I have 7" of sweet cock waiting to be played with. Call me. No Jokes. EXT 3028.

Hungry Tongue Desired - Beefy, well-built WM 38yo, with big muscular legs, nice chest & arms, needs my big firm muscular butt tongue fucked by a hungry tongue on a well built masculine guy. EXT 3029.

Black Top Wanted - East Bay, need a good steady fuckbuddy. Foreskin great, have b/w videos and camcorder for close-up action with copy. One night fuck & suck stands ok. EXT 3030.

Smooth Asian - 5'7", 129#, slim, W/E, seeks mature playmate with own place where we can be nude in/outdoors. Can travel, like beaches. EXT 3031.

Looking to be Worshipped - This older GWM is looking to be worshipped by younger GWM or GWM. I want you to take me to Heaven with your touch. EXT 3032.

Hung Males Sort - GBM, 6'1", 190#, muscular, hung, seeking 8"+, any race for sex. Bi or straight ok. EXT 3034.

Attention Tops - My hot pink butt needs penile insertion. I'm very cute, blonde, anal, a little

chubby. My smooth, round butt looks so sexy when it's spread open & up in the air & it feels sooo good around my finger or your large penis. Give you ideas? I'm ready! EXT 3033.

Horny Bottom - GLM 37, 135#, 5'4", horny bottom looking for hot caucasian tops for fun. EXT 2035.

College Jock - Hot 22yo college boy, 6'3", 210#, great hard body, bl/bl, wants to meet hot guys for fun & friendship & hot workouts, 20-35 only. EXT 3036.

Uncut & Unattached - Nice uc dick on a lean, trim, healthy, HIV+, 47yo, GWM. Looking for a little attention. Prefer trim guys my own age or younger. Offering something special. EXT 3037.

Man to Man - HIV+, 38yo GWM, sexually versatile, average endowment, 175#, muscular, butch, handsome. Looking for if-shape fuck, hairy who's a sexually versatile GWM or GLM for hot man to man animal sex. Lets fuck each other's lights out. Hairy, bearded, SOMA types a plus. EXT 3038.

Santa Rosa Area - Seeking hairy masculine WM for fuckbuddy on regular basis. I'm GWM 47, 5'11", bl/bl, 175#. Versatile but mostly a bottom. I'm also HIV+ and would like you to be too. I like kicking back and having long hot suck and fuck sessions. EXT 3039.

Lets Fuck - Hot BM, 5'9", 140#, masculine, goodlooking, 40yo, is seeking other hot in-shape, masculine guys any race 18-45 for good times, sucking & fucking. I have a great mouth, thick 8" dick and tight butt, smooth body. Love to use them all. I'm versatile, but well hung topmen a definite plus. Enjoy hot nipple play too. EXT 3040.

Get Naked, Get Hard, Showoff - Bearded WM, 39, 5'10", 145#, masculine, hairy, horny, and wild. Average body, short dick, hot voice, look straight but queer as hell and ready to pump it, share it and shoot it with men who are masculine, aggressive, hungry and anxious to play, show, and tell with an uninhibited and versatile new buddy. EXT 3041.

Oakland J/O & Dirty Talk Buddy Wanted - It's late night & we're both into getting fucked up (share costs 50/50), dig being naked w/ other men, but not into fuck, suck, touch sex. EXT 3043.

Phone J/O - Hot tight bottom wants to have hot phone fun with hung hairy daddy tops. Plain fuck scenes to wild nasty fantasies. Leathermen, encouraged. Leave your # with description on v-mail, I'll be discreet. EXT 2960.

I Like Forced Sex - Looking for a top masculine man who is around 30yo, to make this cute GWM do anything you want. EXT 2936.

Latex & Rubber Lovers Wanted - People who love using and/or wearing latex needed for private party of some real hot men who love utilizing rubbers & latex. EXT 2902.

Caress My Soul - If you find your bliss fistig a really good bottom, call me. WM in-shape, 59, 5'11", 170#, beard, tatts, piercings, deepthroat, HIV+. EXT 2942.

Leather, CHP Uniforms, Boots - Have interest in men who love same and wish to share my fantasy. GWM, HIV+, beautifully endowed. Go with me on patrol and work up a sweat. Our conquest could be fascinating. EXT 2916.

Travel w/ Rubbers & Use Them.

Bondage Top Wanted - Handsome & muscular bottom seeks tops into heavy bondage. Bondage and rubber turn me into a pig. Lets debauch. EXT 2944.

Hirsute Nice Looking GWM - HIV+, 48yo, cut. Seeks only intelligent, serious, semi-sadistic men from 35-60 with nice beautiful feet. Let me crawl, lick, & grovel to them like your slave, as you enjoy & verbally indulge in watching me beg & be your footstool. No games, all answered. EXT 2943.

This Dog Does Shit - Very butch, handsome dog will sniff, lick,

Hot Naturally Masculine - Creative, BIBM, 5'8", 170# muscular, seeks pretty drag queens, skinnies/petite boyz (18+), TV/TS. Yeah, I look like a Black intellectual street warrior, but my eyes are queer for you. There's a fire inside that ignites my passionate tongue. Come to daddy and feel the heart pounding relief of cumming together. All races, kinky nerds, artists, writers, foreign students, encouraged. EXT 2983.

Titplay - Tits, Buffed pecs. That's what I like. Round mounds of firm chest flesh. Nubby nipples (at least one

face slapping & spit swapping. I'm 55, 6', 155#. Barricks, hothouse graduate w/ clamps and experience. EXT 2998.

East Bay Late Nights - Do you like dirty talk, but are tired of phone sex? Do you like j/o but only meet fuck/suck types? Do you like buddy to buddy fun but meet top or bottom guys? Do you drink & smoke but meet clean living types? Then lets party (share 50/50) my place 10-11pm. No Videos or shaved cocks. EXT 3044.

San Jose Water Sports - Cute, Thirsty boy, 5'11", 180#, Italian,

Big Pecs and/or Bubble Butts - Are my turnons! WM, 38, beefy, wellbuilt, with big muscle legs, round muscular bubble butt seeks well built beefy to stocky masculine guys to suck on those nipples and/or tongue fuck the hell out of your round bubble butt. EXT 3046.

Alive & Breathing - Stay that way; always wear a condom when you get fucked. EXT SAFE.

Bubble Butt Pig Slave - Well trained man of color seeks hot buddy to play with my hot brown butt. Toys & hands a plus. Me 5'9", 150#, goodlooking, 30yo, hot & wild. EXT 3048.

## OTHER

SFGiants Fans - GWM 45, 5'11", 190#, bl/bl, average man, has fri. night season tickets. Seeks GWM 25-40 for games, dinners, etc... EXT 2906.

Give a Dog a Home - I'm no dog, but I need a short term home when I move to the Bay. 24, GWM, hot, honest, just need a home while I get set-up. Can only offer you my help and companionship. No kink or freaks, no tricks, I promise the same. EXT 2948.

Penis Enlargement? - Looking for advice from men who have gotten their penis enlarged surgically in the Bay Area. Just want to know about safety, results, trustworthy physicians, etc... Please leave a message and I'll discreetly call you back. Please call, Thanks. EXT 2955.

Seeking Friend - SBM Seeks SW TS/TV for friendship, possible romance. You very feminine, 40+, no smoke/drugs. EXT 2999.

Massage Buddies - GWM seeks erotic massage partners for fun exchanges. Your place or mine. Novices OK. Under 40 and in shape only, please. EXT 3000.

House & Body Servant Wanted - You are a dedicated slave-oriented person, trim, any age, hard working. This is a man to men relationship. We like naked, shaved boys, whip-trained, & celebrate. Abodes in SF & Sonoma Co. Not a sex ad. EXT 3049.

Wrestle With Pride - Second annual pre-parade party, Saturday 6/18 in private gym. Absolutely free to all serious wrestlers into no-holds-barred rough-barred rough-house action. 1 rule: no gawkers - if you come you wrestle! Last year over a dozen of Cal's hottest, toughest men showed up. EXT 3055.

## HORNY??



Sick of dating animals?  
...or do you want to meet one?  
Give BarTalk a call and find what  
you're looking for!

1-900-844-2227

You must be 18. .98¢ per minute

## FETISHES

suck, and eat turds from extremely handsome men only studs. Only the very hot need call this ad. I'm HIV+, uninhibited, very sexy and ready! EXT 2945.

A Close Shave - I like my boy's privates smooth as glass, and the rest closely cropped. I'm lanky, clean shaven, 42, bald on top (a personal turn-on), size 12 army boots, and a well honed sadistic streak. HIV. EXT 2946.

Bodybuilder Wanted for Body Worship - 6'2", 185#, 34yo, bl/bl, handsome, versatile top seeks buffed, defined, white, muscled stud over 190# for hot body worship sessions. Pose, flex, and show off while I oil your muscles, service your pecs and polish your gun. Looks not important, muscles are. EXT 2947.

Hispanic, masculine, 32yo, seeks 2 or more goodlooking 18-35yo to drop in and quench my thirst with recycled beef. 1st timers ok, or just watch ok. Latin a +. EXT 3045.

Humiliate Me - Cute 23yo white boy seeks arrogant, dominating men to force me on my knees and make my kiss, lick, suck, smell your shoes, socks, & feet. Enjoy verbal abuse, light spanking, light B/D, & total humiliation. EXT 2946.

I Like to Watch - Hot Italian, 43yo, wants to watch you & your buddies having sex. Will provide place, videos, & refreshments. Call for description. EXT 2997.

Big Nipples & Tit Torture - Looking for GWM 29-45 for mutual nipple play tit twisting.

Deadline for ads is 5:00p.m. Thursdays for the following Thursday's issue. New ads will be published in the following Thursday's issue and will run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information and details on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ads.

SELECT A CATEGORY:

SEEKING RELATIONSHIPS: M-M \_\_\_\_\_ W-W \_\_\_\_\_

SEEKING ADVENTURE: M-M \_\_\_\_\_ W-W \_\_\_\_\_

FETISHES \_\_\_\_\_

COPLES \_\_\_\_\_

PARTING GLANCES \_\_\_\_\_

Please print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid Address and Phone # and understandable text.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DAY PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Apt # \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

Write your headline here: \_\_\_\_\_

Write rest of Ad here: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: BARTALK PERSONALS, 395 9TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94103.

still only 98 cents per minute to respond to ads!

1-900-844-2227

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# week

## FRIDAY 17

### In the Life

This episode of nationally broadcast television show looks at the important 25th anniversary of Stonewall, the most pivotal moment in the evolution of gay and lesbian history. 11:30pm on channel 9.

### Queer Cabaret

Come to Center for the Arts to see the Center's first salute to Lesbian and Gay Pride. Cabaret features solo performances by Bay Area comic Marilyn Pittman and juggling diva Sara Felder; collaborations by performance poets Wayne Corbett and Justin

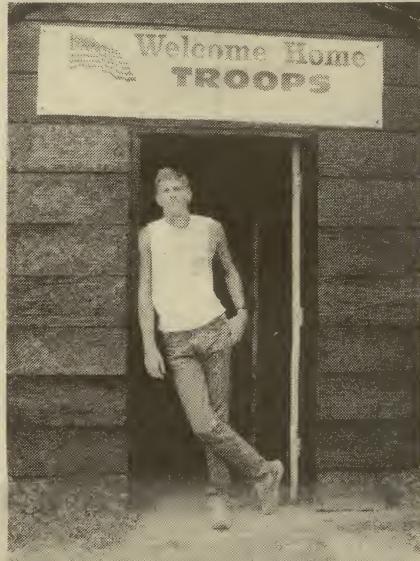
photographs. Thru 7/31. Soho Gallery, 548 Castro. 206-9341.

### Radical Faeries Benefit

Fundraiser for Wolf Creek Radical Faeries Sanctuary, featuring a stellar cast of shameless shamans, spunkily spirits and sparkling superstars: Trebor, Sparrow Laughing Wand, Eric Wilcox, Gregory O'Neill and many others. 194 Church Street, 8pm. Sliding scale. \$5-\$100.

### In the Jungle of Cities

Y Theater presents early Brecht play in which two men develop a homoerotic relationship in the Chicago underworld. \$12. Opens tonight, runs Thurs.-Sun.



Where Are We? Our Trip Through Gay America, (see WED.)

Chin, Keith Hennessey, David E. Johnston and others. 7:30pm. 701 Mission St. \$13. Repeats 6/18. For information, call 978-ARTS.

### Street Theater

A fictional retelling of the events on Christopher Street in New York during June 27, 1969. Playwright Doric Wilson's story is told in ensemble by the characters as they pass each other on the street near the Stonewall Inn, where the riot occurred. Thru June 17. 8:30pm; Sundays at 7pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Call 861-5079 for information.

### Marga Gomez

Acclaimed queer comic in *Line Around the Block* or *My Art Belongs to Daddy*. 8pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933 for tickets. Thru June 19.

### Pants Down At Armageddon

William Holst's portrayal of virulently homophobic America circa 2000 is the final production of Restless Pens, the first annual Gay and Lesbian Playwrights Festival. Opens tonight, plays Thurs.-Sun. thru 7/10. \$15-17. 8pm. At the New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-4914.

Howard Roffman "Classic Male Nudes in Black and White and Color," new

photographs. Thru 7/31. Soho Gallery, 548 Castro. 206-9341.

**Machinal**  
Actors Theatre of SF revives this "tragedy of submission" about a woman who strikes back. \$14-16. 8pm. Wed.-Sat. through June. 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

### Reckless

Craig Lucas' comedic fable about a woman's flight from a hit man runs weekends thru 7/2. \$15-18pm. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 621-4423.

### Andromache

Central Works presents a radical adaptation of Racine's neoclassical pot-boiler. \$10. 8pm. St. John's, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. Thru 6/25. 510-525-0732.

### Glaser/Farrow

Morphos Gallery presents a two-person exhibit: recent photos by Nina Glaser and bronze and mixed media sculptures by Al Farrow. The body is the subject of Glaser's and Farrow's work. Morphos Gallery, 544 Hayes.

### The Woman Warrior

Berkeley Rep. presents an adaptation of Maxine Hong Kingston's acclaimed novels. The stories follow the author's family and its generational odyssey from a village in China to Stockton, Ca. Thru 6/23, 2025 Addison St. In Berkeley. \$20-\$27.50. 1-510-845-4700.

## SATURDAY 18

### Gay Comedy Extravaganza!

Tom Ammiano (Tom!) and company celebrate 25 years of Stonewall with "Mary Get Off My Dress," a comedy special featuring comics Suzy Berger, Karen Ripley, Marilyn Pittman, Monica Palacios, Sabrina Matthews, Doug Holsclaw and Hank "Newsroom" Donat. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St. 7:30 and 9:30pm. \$15. Call 885-0750. Partial proceeds go to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

### Pansy Division

Celebrate queer life with Pansy Division, Enrique and Pussy Tourette, three queer bands on one queer night. DNA Lounge. 9pm. \$6.

### Julie Queen

The electrifying Julie Queen returns to the Sky Room at Eichelberger's every Saturday night in *Combustible Cabaret*.

11pm. \$10. 2742 17th St. For details, call 863-4177.

### Female Trouble

Join Female Trouble for a musical Gay Day Eve extravaganza. Ghosts from Trouble's illustrious past will rise to the stage to celebrate this auspicious occasion.

New York might have Stonewall, but we've got Female Trouble. 9pm-2am. Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th Street. Many surprise musical guests and other local luminaries.

### Tales of the City

This is the second installment of the hit Maupin series. In this episode, Anna



Photo: Marc Geller

Madrigal takes *Mona to Beach Blanket Babylon* and Michael wins the Endup Contest, but loses Jon in the process. 8-10pm. Channel 9.

**Futura Returns**  
San Francisco's ultimate Latino dance club, in response to overwhelming demand, is back every Saturday night starting June 18. 9pm; their new location is at 520 4th St. at Bryant (The Trocadero). Kick-off is a special Pride Celebration — *un ambiente Jouen*. For information, call 665-6715.

**The Long Companion**  
The story of a group of carefree gay men in New York who come together and find strength in the face of adversity, which comes to them in the form of AIDS. 10-11:45pm. Channel 9.

**Bambi Lake**  
New cabaret show "Flawless," with Birdie Bob Watt on baby grand. Sat. Thru June. \$5. 9 and 10:30pm. Embassy Lounge, 600 Polk St. 885-0842.

**A Name You Never Got**  
Ronda Slater's one-woman play about her reunion with the daughter she gave to adoption. Fri. & Sat. thru June. \$23. 8pm. First Lutheran Church, 4100 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 654-5264.

### Unconscious Rhymes For Our Times

Three kids (one bad, one good, one shy) live through a school day. Thur.-Sat. thru 6/25. \$10. 8:30pm. Somar Theatre, 956 Brannan. 864-2363.

### Love Like a Dog With the Devil at Your Elbow

Exhibition of acrylic, metal and leather paintings by SF artist Jeffrey Stephen Bauer. Intersection for the Arts Gallery, 446 Valencia. Thru 6/30. 626-2787.

**Stuntwork**  
OnSite Dance Company premieres a multimedia performance to a score by Myles Boisen, played by the Splatter Trio.

**Aurora Theatre Co.**  
Two one-acts: George Bernard Shaw's *How I Lied to Her Husband* and John Morton's *Box and Cox*. Thru 6/29. \$12-18. 8pm. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-4822.

**Artfull Circle's Last Hurrah**  
Drag Garage Sale to raise funds for theater's future productions. 47 Waller St. from 1pm to 4pm.

**Young, Gifted and Queer**  
A performance of original new works by the DramaDIVAS. 7:30pm. Brava Studio Theater, 2180 Bryant St. \$5-\$10. Free if under 18. For information, call 641-7684.

**AIDS Memorial Grove**  
Monthly volunteer workday 9am-3pm. Middle & Bowling Green Drives in Golden Gate Park. Call 750-8340 for more information, or in case of rain. Tools are provided.

**Inside/Out**  
Gay and lesbian TV. Noon. Cable Channel 47.

**Late Nite With Joan Jett Blakk**  
Smart talk with the

mostess hostess. \$6. Midnight. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

**Triangle Productions**  
Gay and lesbian TV. 9:30pm. Channel 53.

**location: 731-2424.**

**Party Talk**  
Gay and lesbian TV. 11pm. Cable Channel 47.

**Voyeur Foyer**  
Queer independent films and videos, every Sun. at 10:30pm on Channel 53.

## SUNDAY 19

### Happy Gay Pride Day!

**Swellegant Elegance**  
Tony-Award winning entertainer Harvey Fierstein joins the Seattle Mens' Chorus in a musical exploration of the life of music maker Cole Porter. Diane Schuur guest

## MONDAY 20

**Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt**  
From an Olympic athlete to an 11-year-old boy, this documentary tells the story of five people with AIDS from very different walks



of life — all of whom are commemorated in the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. 9-10pm. Channel 9.

**Afro Solo**  
Artists John O'Neal and Thomas R. Simpson perform in the continuing African American Solo Performance Festival at The Diego Rivera Theatre, City College, 50 Phelan Ave. 3pm. \$11. Call 346-9344 for information.

**Buddha Pisses**  
Solo artist John Shaw presents *The Buddha Laughed So Hard He Pissed His Pants*, at 848 Community Space at 848 Divisadero St. 8:15pm. \$5-\$25. For information, call 553-8864.

**Stephen Savage**  
New photo-graphs from Savage include work from *Men in Bed* series. Thru 6/30. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

**Richard Bolingbroke**  
Watercolors by world-renown artist Richard Bolingbroke on display throughout June at Sweet Inspirations, 2239 Market Street.

**GAWK**  
The Gay Artists and Writers Collective seeks prose, poetry and other writers. Meets every Sun. at 2:30pm. Call for

Chen and Dancers, Theater Artaud, June. Call 621-7797



## Laugh Riot

Do something different this Gay-Pride Eve. Take in some wild and crazy comedy with Tom Ammiano, Marilyn Pittman, Sabrina Matthews, Karen Ripley, Doug Holzclaw, Hank Donat and others. The Gay Comedy Extravaganza takes place Saturday, June 18 at Great American Music Hall. For details, see Saturday.

Cheese and Alvin a GoGo. The Stud, 9th & Harrison. 863-6623.

### NAMES Project Quilt

Selection of panels from AIDS Memorial Quilt. Thru 6/26. \$3. Center for the Arts Galleries, 701 Mission St. 978-ARTS.

### Moral History

Installation by Karen Finley examining male domination of art world and the marginalization of women. Runs thru July 2. Walter/McBean Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute, 800 Chestnut St. 771-7020.

### Casting Couch

Celebrity portraits by Gus Van Sant. Shows with Cammie Toloui-Kotchikov's *Strip-pervision*. Thru 6/25. SF Camera-work 70 12th St 621-1001.

### Tales of the City

Lesbians & Gay Men Since Stonewall, an exhibit in the 2nd fl. Rotunda, opens at the SFPublic Library, Civic Center. Thru 8/31. 557-4566

### Invitational Photo Exhibit

Peter Berlin, Tom Bianchi, Rick Gerhardt and many more. Thru 8/5. Ram Studios, 4077A 18th St. 558-9564.

### Even Among These Rocks

New play opens by Claire "Why We Have A Body" Chafee, lesbian friends struggling with the chronic illness of a male friend. Thru 7/17. \$17-22. 8:30pm. Magic Theatre, Bldg D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

## TUESDAY 21

by 16 Sonoma County male artists, June 4-17. The show attempts to provide the viewer with a broad view of male imagery created by recognized and emerging artists. 14028 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville. For information, call 707-869-9357.

## Wednesday 22

Adventures in the Gender Trade Transsexual performer and playwright Kate Bornstein is the subject of this documentary that combines

## Wednesday 22

**Stonewall Retold**  
The Delian League in association with Theatre Rhinoceros present Doric Wilson's Street Theater, the Twenty-Seventh of June, 1969, in Two Acts. Street Theater is a fictional retelling of the events on Christopher Street in New York on the day of June 27, 1969. The story is told in ensemble by the characters as they pass each other on the street near where the Stonewall riot occurred. Plays Fri-Sun at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. Curtain, 8:30pm, except Sundays at 7pm. For tickets and information, call 861-5079.

## Wednesday 22

### Before Stonewall

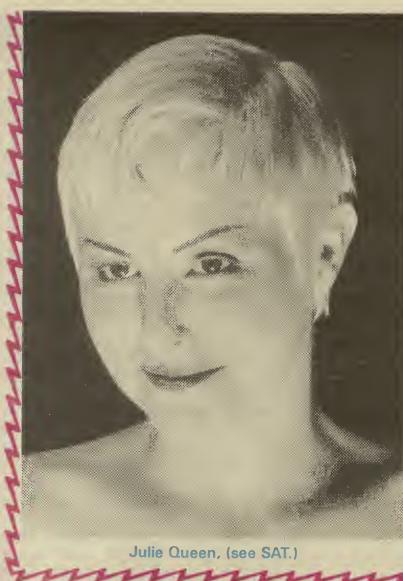
This highly praised documentary, narrated by Rita Mae Brown, chronicles the remarkable history of gays and lesbians from 1920 until the fevered June 1969 riots at the famed New York City gay bar, the Stonewall Inn. 9pm. Channel 9.

### Where Are We?

Where Are We? Our Trip Through Gay America is a one-hour special by Jeffrey Friedman and Rob Epstein that explores the more or less hidden aspects of American culture as uncovered by two gay filmmakers who set out to discover an America they'd never seen before. On PBS at 10:30pm; check local listings for times.

### Dirty Dreams Redux

Ron Johnson in a solo version of Henry Mach's and Paul Katz's *Dirty Dreams of a Clean-Cut Kid*. Thru June 26. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 8pm. \$10. Call 861-7933 for tickets and information.



Julie Queen, (see SAT.)

### Stonewall Exhibition

Lesbians and gays are the subject of a new exhibit, *Tales of the City, Lesbians and Gay Men Since Stonewall*. The Bernice Layne Brown Gallery in the Doe Library at U.C. Berkeley. Up thru August 31.

### Critical Details

Nina Levitt's exhibition of representations of women in photography 'from Calamity Jane to Cross Dressers.' Thru 7/30. Wed-Sat, Noon-5pm. Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission St. 431-6911.

### Follow

Installation by Su-Chen Hung opens, reception 5:30pm-7:30pm. Thru 7/16. 10th Year Anniversary Exhibition at the LAB, 1897 Divisadero. 346-4063.

## THURSDAY 23

### The Fabulous Rainbeam Body & Soul

Every Thursday, Kimos, 1351 Polk St. Call 885-4535 for information.

### Family Album

Steven Compton and Lenore Chinn curate exhibit of lesbian and gay artists challenging 'traditional' notions of family. The Luggage Store Gallery, 1007 Market. 255-5971.

### Makostyle

Gay/lesbian TV. 10:30 pm. Cable Channel 47.

### Hush Up,

### Sweet Charlotte

New stage version of gothic horror movie with Bette Davis. With Matt

hew Martin and Paul Anelli. \$13. Thru 7/23. 8pm. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. 762-BASS.

### Emmet Gowin

Jock Sturges Two exhibitions at Vision Gallery, photographs by Sturges, *Evolution of Grace*, and Gowin, *Immediate Worlds*. Thru 7/9. 1155 Mission St. 621-2107.

### Solo Duo

"The Singing Nun Is Dead," Johnny D's requiem for the '60s pop star; and "Dreaming in Lotus," Matthew Morin's monologue about unemployment, cyberspace and love. Thur. nights thru June. \$8. 8pm. South Beach Theatre, 74 Townsend St. 495-5362.

### Gravity Is

A State of Mind New vaudeville by Steve Zee, a tap-dancing, musical one-man revue. Thru 6/26. 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

### The Husband

An exhibition of recent work by Sophie Calle, continuation of the artist's *Autobiographical Stories*. Thru 7/2. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661.

### Lettuce & Lovage

Palo Alto Players' production of the comedy by Peter Shaffer. \$14-16. Wed-Sat. thru 6/25 at the Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. 329-0891.

### Man to Man, (see MON.)

## This Week's Dinner Specials

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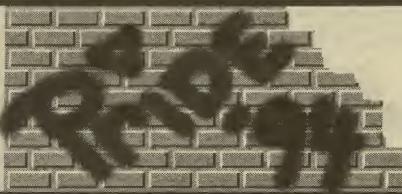
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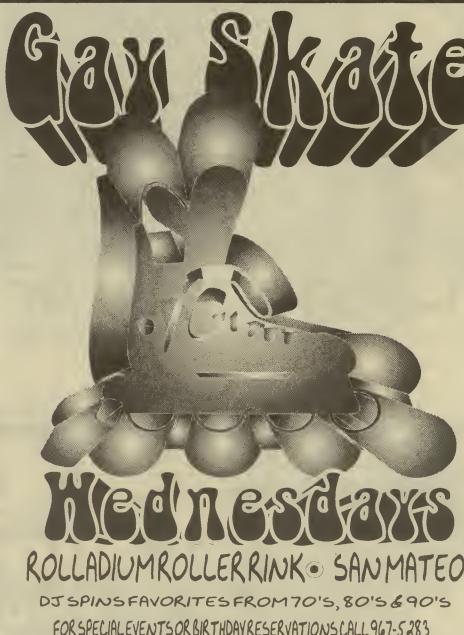
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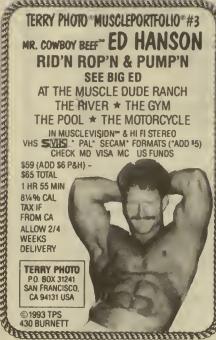


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## Film

### Eros

(Continued from page 84)

critic Vito Russo, himself an AIDS activist and casualty, observed, "In *An Early Frost* we see how AIDS affects a young man's mother, father, sister, brother-in-law and grandmother. There is no consideration given to the fact that this is happening to him."

Similarly, *Our Sons* deals mainly with the relationship between the two gay companions' mothers. The film, which aired in 1991, told the story of sick Donald, his healthy partner James, and their two mothers. Donald has been estranged from his mother Luanne (Ann Margaret), since she expelled him from her home in Fayetteville, Arkansas, when she discovered his homosexuality. James and his mother, successful and wealthy California businesswoman Audrey Grant (Julie Andrews), now try to reconcile mother and dying son. Audrey flies to Fayetteville and then drives across country with Luanne back to California. The movie is the story of the two women examining their differences and discovering their similarities. It ends with a series of reconciliations: between two women of different classes and cultures, between the dying Donald and his mother, and between James and his own mother.

In both TV movies, as in *Philadelphia*, AIDS is first and foremost a threat to white, middle-class heterosexual families and, only secondarily, a disease that brings death and destroys homosexual family units. Neither film deals with the impact of AIDS on the surviving partner, nor is AIDS portrayed as a political or social issue. In all three films the gay couples do not have gay friends, they are not a part of a gay community or support network and their only source of support is the biological family. In all three, the gay couples do not have sex, and hardly even touch each other on screen. All three offer compassion, health information and preach tolerance and acceptance, but, like mainstream Hollywood productions and prime-time television in general, these films tell stories about the safer space of (heterosexual) family harmony and reconciliation. And in all three films, the biological family wins over the gay family of choice. Mother Luanne takes

her dead son's coffin with her back to Arkansas while James and his own mother Audrey go home together. Similarly, in *Philadelphia*, when Andrew Beckett needs support and affirmation, he goes "home," that is, to his parents. Mothers always win, especially when their Oedipal victory reinforces the Freudian equation of homosexuality with immaturity and with fixation on the mother.

The established formula also calls for the prairie to win over the city. AIDS occurs in Philadelphia, Chicago or Los Angeles, where urban sin, deviancy and degeneration threaten the American dream. Michael finds tranquility and support among his loving relatives away from the city; Andrew Beckett finds it in his parents' suburban house, and Donald finds eternal peace in Arkansas (or was it Kansas?). *Philadelphia*, in short, has not advanced the portrayal of gay life or of AIDS beyond the early TV movies. When all the hype and self-congratulation are over, we are left with the same old story and the same old stereotypes: gay people are diseased, promiscuous and lonely.

### Beyond cliches

These mainstream representations of gay AIDS, however, have recently been challenged. Not surprisingly, the new visualizations of gay AIDS were created by directors who were themselves infected with HIV and who died before their movies reached audiences. Two recent films employ different approaches to the dramatic representations of living with and dying from AIDS.

*Silverlake Life: The View from Here* was produced and directed by Tom Joslin, and completed and edited by his friend Peter Friedman. It was first shown on PBS in June 1993 in conjunction with the Gay and Lesbian March on Washington. *Silverlake* documents the slow decline and death of Joslin and his lover of 22 years, Mark Massi. This very personal video diary records both men's experiences with AIDS in order to show that "life is not like in the movies," and that neither is death.

*Silverlake Life* takes place in the couple's home in the middle-class Los Angeles neighborhood of Silverlake. Both of the men in the film are emotionally, socially, and economically secure. Their love and companionship are too stable to be altered by the advancing decay of AIDS. This stability leaves only one dramatic process in the film: the biological disintegration of two bodies, which is portrayed with stark realism. *Silverlake Life* is not a political movie, or even a social documentary. But its realistic portrayal of AIDS as a purely medical problem, and its refusal to sentimentalize death challenges visual cliches. And the representation of the normalcy of the couple's lives and deaths, and their deep love towards each other, renders the invisible visible. In that sense, one can argue, the film serves a major political cause.

### 'Savage Nights'

Unlike *Silverlake Life*, *Savage Nights (Les Nuits Fauves)* is anything but stable. Based on French filmmaker and musician Cyril Collard's partly autobiographical novel,



The late Cyril Collard

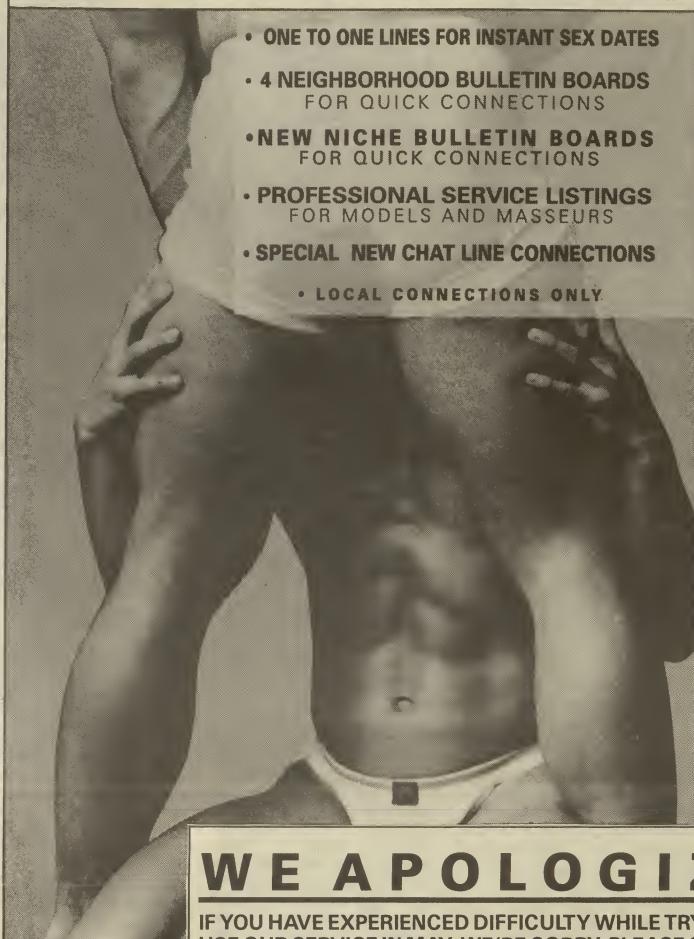
the film's main character, Jean (played by Collard himself, who could not find an actor willing to play the role), is a bisexual, HIV-positive man. Jean simultaneously maintains two love affairs — one with Laura (Romane Bohringer), an 18-year-old woman, and with Samy (Carlos Lopez), a presumably straight man. The movie takes place on the margins of Paris in the working-class Red Belt, which surrounds the city and is symbolically located both inside and outside the city boundaries. Its characters are recent immigrants from Morocco and Spain, the unemployed single parents and kids of broken families. Some of them are petty criminals, the others thugs. Unlike Joslin, Collard does not have time to record his death. He is too busy living it in full and total abandon to the end. The movie is refreshingly unrepentant and honest about life with HIV, as it bypasses the the whole predictable business of the inevitability of death. Jean has unprotected sex with his girlfriend (once at her request), and continues to have unprotected anonymous gay sex under the bridges of the Seine and along the deserted docks of Bercy. "My film is not an ad for the health department...I show human behavior in all its greatness and vileness," Collard said shortly before his death in 1993. Collard here follows a uniquely French discourse about AIDS, one that was conspicuously articulated by Michel Foucault, Jean-Paul Aron and Hervé Guibert, who treated the danger of death itself as sexually exciting, and who accepted death as part of the life experience. AIDS activists in France and the U.S. attacked the film's presentation of unprotected sex, but ignored the courageous honesty of these scenes and *Savage Night's* powerful display of

(Continued on page 106)

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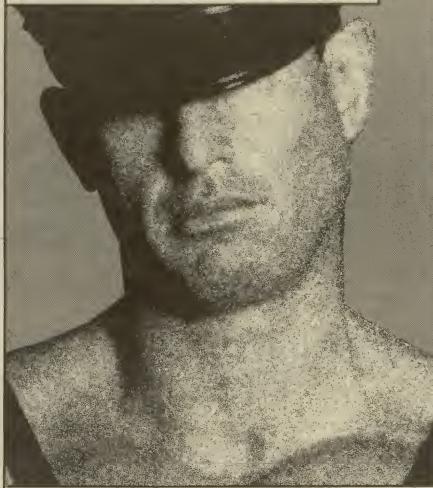
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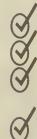
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PHOTO: HARBOUR STUDIOS

## BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

Mr. Marcus

### Leather Community's Pride on Parade

**W**hen the Pride Parade steps off at 1100 this Sunday morning, June 19th at Civic Center, we'll again witness a plethora of diversity, one of the mainstays of San Francisco's annual celebration. The Stonewall Celebration in New York next weekend may be the biggest parade ever, but San Francisco's annual parade has always led the world with attendance records. True, many of our people are already enroute or in New York already, but nothing indicates attendance will be down in Frisco.

People from around the world were already here last week to participate and/or witness this year's event, including people from Australia, Germany, The Netherlands, Argentina, England, and a real cute couple from Mexico City. Our parade is multicultural, multinational and probably the proudest in the nation. Parade President Helen Ruvelas and her people have been busy, busy, busy, preparing for the big event and you will not be disappointed.

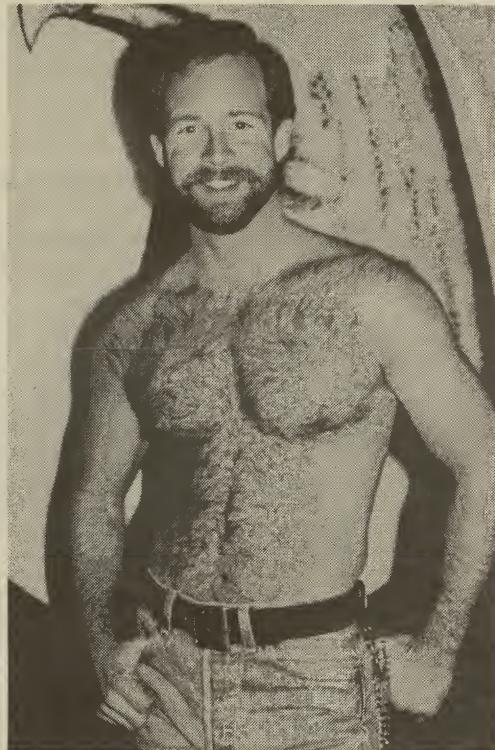
The leather community will be well represented. Some of the leather bars have opted to have their own contingent, but the Leather Pride float constructed by Nick Verrakakis and friends will be one unit you shouldn't miss. Volunteers of the leather persuasion have been working hard to raise the money to pay for the float and from the sketches I've seen it bodes a beautiful spectacle.

Naturally, many local title holders will be on it including the new International Mr. Leather Jeffrey Tucker, International Mr. Drummer Graylin Thornton, plus Mr. and Ms. San Francisco Leather Mike Lias and Diana Hardick, Leather Daddy Philip Turner, and Mr. San Jose Drummer Bill Van Dyk, to name only a few. Watch for it and give a wave. Show your leather pride and have a wonderful time at the party afterward. It is, after all, South of Market.



The official first day of Summer is just around the corner, but already the dudes and dudettes are in full swing with lots of activities planned.

Last Thursday night, June 9, only seven of the 12 bare chest calendar winners showed up at the Eagle to compete for the cover spot. Judges Jerry Roberts, Kevin Sims and Peter Dorian had a field day with Mr. Lee Tucker, Mr. April Eliot "Buck" Sierra, Mr. May John Gabinette, Mr. August Mark Johansen, Mr. September Alex Saldarriaga, Mr. October Kevin MacLachlan and Mr. Dec. Bob Scott Sherrill. They didn't have to go through the horror chamber they went through to win their spots earlier this year, but Jerry Roberts can get playful. When all the votes were counted, Mr. August



Mark Johansen, Mr. August, will grace the cover of the 1995 Bare Chest Calendar when it goes on sale to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund; chosen last Thursday, June 9 at the SF-Eagle.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Mark Johansen won the right to be on the 1995 calendar cover with Alex Saldarriaga taking the runner-up spot and the back cover. The calendar should be ready by the time of the Folsom Street Fair, and it will be the 10th Anniversary edition, so save your coins and buy a dozen or more. Your donation will benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Friday night, June 10, a huge array of entertainers who will be part of the big Men Behind Bars show on Labor Day weekend stomped the boards at the SF-Eagle at their fundraiser. Talents in-

cluded the Safer Sex Sluts, Dr. Dan, the inimitable Gail Wilson, the delightful Miss "P," Joe Taro, the Bay Area Raw Rabs, The Widow Norton Jose and Nicole Dushay. It was a festive evening with lots of door prizes.

And on Friday night our newest leather bar, The Motorworks, opened its doors to the public (there was a private party on Thursday) and the traffic between Market/Valencia and South of Market was all but impossible. Motorworks will work. Friendly staff, convenient location and it's definitely

(Continued on next page)



Rev. Jim Mitulski of MCC (center) and his assistant blessed the bike of John DiMeo at the Annual Blessing of the Bikes at the Eagle on Sunday, June 5.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

## Mr. Marcus

### Eventures in Leather

**Thursday, June 16:** Tim Collins photo show, "Daddy II," opens tonight (hanging until July 17) at Headquarters. You won't want to miss this insightful photographer's work. A reception for the artist will take place tomorrow night, June 17, at 2000.

**Friday, June 17:** Ms. Alameda Co. Beth Elliott's Wet TShirt Contest at IJ's Getaway in Hayward at 2100 tonight. 50/50 raffle, prizes and deejay dancing. Entry information by calling (510) 452-BETH.

AIDS Health Project and Blow Buddies present free anonymous HIV testing, counsel-

ing and education from 2200-2430 tonight at 933 Harrison. Open to everyone.

**Saturday, June 18:** Phoenix Uniform Club's Third Annual Uniform & Leather Ball in the Green Room of the Veterans War Memorial Bldg. (McAllister at Van Ness Ave.). The \$35 (advance) fee includes a full buffet dinner and "adult" beverages, with entertainment by City Swing, featuring Gail Wilson, from 1900-2300. The beneficiary (50 percent) is the AIDS Emergency Fund. Tix also available at Mr. S Leathers, Worn Out West and Leathermasters in San Jose

or \$45/door. Don't miss this one! You'll love all that spit and shine!

*Husky's Magazine* release party at 764 Tehama for \$10. Tehama is between Howard/Folsom and 8th/9th. From 2200 to whenever. Usual amenities furnished, but *no smoking* in this venue!

**Sunday, June 19:** Annual Pride Parade begins at Civic Center and ends near the Embarcadero. Kicks off at 1100 and party, party, party — with pride! See ya at the Eagle afterward!

New York's leather participation at Stonewall next week. ▼

geared to get your cruising juices flowing. The owners, Terry and Mark, are very congenial (not to mention quite hot) and want you to have a good time, so give it a try on your next outing. Their grand opening celebration takes place on Sunday, June 26th, so if you're not in New York, join the festivities.

Saturday, community leaders gathered for the Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner in the Pavilion at Fort Mason and earlier in the day, International Mr. Bear Michael Myhand headed up a very successful Mr. Russian River Bear Contest weekend in Guerneville. Over 200 people participated and in the process, some \$1,378 was raised for Food for Thought. How sweet it is.

There was a meet and greet on Friday night and a contest on Saturday afternoon. Glen McClintock of Guerneville won the title with Terry Slivice of Monte Rio the runner-up. Guerneville's Bill Dunlap was the second runner-up. Glen will represent the Russian River at the International Mr. Bear Contest in San Francisco next February. There was a great auction and post victory party that night and a nice farewell brunch on Sunday. Good show! Glen Morris promises I'll have photos for you next week! I can't wait!

Sunday afternoon, June 12, former Leather Daddy Don Thompson teamed up with Leather Daddy Philip Turner for the annual Daddy's Day leather auction at the Eagle. Danny Williams emceed the affair as only Danny can — insulting everyone/everything in sight — while the Leather Love Connection was in progress. Number 100 seemed to get the most attention and wouldn't you know he lives in the East Bay? But he's single! (Make that newly divorced). With the Constantines MC serving up scrumptious Beef Stroganoff and beer flowing freely, plus the delightful Cynthia Manley knocking 'em dead, they raised over \$3000! Another good show! Fun afternoon, great bargains too.

\*\*\*

It's confirmed. The big mud wrestling challenge issued by former IML Henri Ten Have to former IML Lenny Broberg will take place for sure at Club MUD in Rio Nido on Saturday afternoon, July 23. From what I hear, people are coming from all over for this one. Details follow as soon as they're finalized. This should be a hot event, not to mention messy.

\*\*\*

Leather/SM dykes should know that the details of the



Tony Gallady is the first Mr. DC Drummer chosen in Washington on Saturday, June 4. He'll compete for the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer title in late July in Baltimore.

(Photo: Vern Stewart)

1994 Seattle Madness, the Powersurge Conference, is scheduled for the weekend of September 2-5 in Seattle. You can get the whole weekend for \$80 if you register before July 1; after Aug. 15 it's \$95 and goes up to \$120 the day of the conference opening.

The host hotel is the Radama Inn, 2200 - 5th Ave. in Seattle and their number is (800) 228-2828 with \$87 for singles and \$89 for doubles. Myriad workshops, demonstrations, lectures, auction, masquerade ball and erotica show is planned for all women-oriented women, but remember, the "dick-in-the-drawer" rule applies to all evening parties. Contact phone is (206) 233-8429. After a one-year hiatus, Powersurge is eagerly awaited by hundreds of leather/SM women, so make your plans now!

\*\*\*

And while you're making plans, here's some future competition events some of which you might be interested in:

The Mr. SF Drummer Contest will take place at Headquarters Bar on Thursday, June 30 at 2100. Applications are available now, so if you're interested, this is the time to act and get your fantasy together for the competition. More on this one later.

Winner of the Mr. SF Drummer title will compete for the Mr. Northern California Drummer Contest at Club F/X in San Jose on Sunday, July 10. More on this one later, too.

Philip Turner relinquishes the sash, but not his commitment to leather pride, when the 1994 5th Leather Daddy of San Francisco contest takes place at the SF-Eagle on Friday, July 29th. Applications for contestants are available now. ▼

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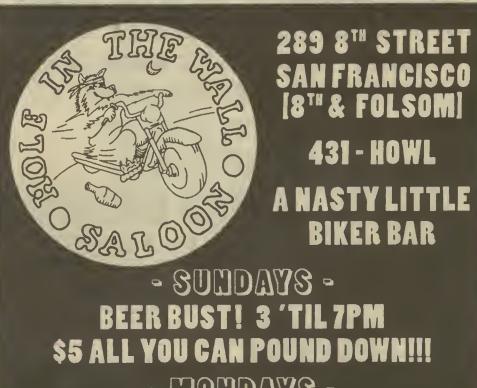
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**Film**



Denzel Washington played a TV attorney in Jonathan Demme's *Philadelphia*.

**Eros**

*(Continued from page 102)*

the intermingling of passion, guilt and blame.

Where *Silverlake Life* is static, *Savage Nights* is ecstatic, and while the former could be read as a manifesto about gay love, death and heroism during an epidemic, the latter is about Collard's inability and unwillingness to locate his — and his characters' — sexual identities. When Samy, Collard's supposedly straight male lover, is asked by his brother: "So you're a faggot now?" Samy simply shrugs his shoulders. He neither knows nor cares. This exchange represents two different approaches not only to AIDS but also to gay politics. While the American movie articulates gayness as a part of an identity politics, and centers on the *embourgeoisement* of gay American life, Collard's approach situates Jean's bisexuality as one of numerous social instabilities characterizing France in the 1980s and '90s. Of all the

movies under review here, Collard's is the only one that locates AIDS within the surrounding social epidemics of contemporary society. Gay identity is given in *Philadelphia*, *Early Frost*, *Our Sons* and *Silverlake Life*. Identities — sexual, ethnic, familial, professional, geographical — are in constant transition for Collard and his characters. *Silverlake Life* and *Savage Nights* also include family reunion scenes. *Silverlake Life* is loyal to the cliché, and romanticizes the scene: Parents and son rejoin in a snowy New Hampshire home for a Thanksgiving meal. Together they recall their past quarrels over the son's sexuality, but also the parents' acceptance. Against all odds, the happy American family is reconciled once again around the dinner table while the snow keeps falling outside. It took time and struggle, but mother-in-law and gay son-in-law learned to love each other, and would have lived happily ever after had the son-in-law not died six

months later of the same disease that killed the son. There is no such sentimental reconciliation in *Savage Nights*. Jean is still angry at his mother for her refusal to let his boyfriend spend the night many years before. His anger is raw, and forgiveness is not really on his mind. With his father the hostility is even more brutal and explicit, and in a powerful scene we witness the two having dinner together without exchanging a word. (What is the role of the father in AIDS movies — and for that matter, in the real life of gay people with AIDS? Fathers are totally absent in *Our Sons* and from Mark Massi's life, and when they do appear, as in *Savage Nights* and *An Early Frost*, they are their gay sons' enemies, unforgiving and unforgivable.)

**What price authenticity?**

Like most homemade videos, *Silverlake Life* raises the question who is the intended audience? Its naked brutality is too realistic for its own good, and the film is too personal, intimate and self-centered around Joslin and Massi's love story. *Savage Nights* addresses AIDS within other contexts, for instance, racial violence and unemployment. Luckily, it rejects moralism and "political correctness," and therefore manages to carry the political messages without overloading the audience. In fact, the movie has become a major commercial success in France, winning four Cesar awards, among them best picture. Both movies show that there is an alternative way to make movies about AIDS, one that does not erase the gayness of its subjects and that represents the characters as human beings and not as stereotypes. *Savage Nights* also shows that filming an honest AIDS movie should not necessarily mean financial suicide for producers. This was exactly the risk that *Philadelphia* and its producers failed to take. ▼

*Editor's Note: Enrique Asis is an Argentinian-born economist currently working as a volunteer coordinator for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.*

**Sports**

**SF Gay Softball League Divisional Standings**

Standings as of June 12:

**Barbary Coast:**

Now Voyager: won 12; lost 0

Rockdogs: won 12; lost 2

Lonestar Mayhem: won 10; lost 4

Metro/Rita's: won 10; lost 4

Uncle Bert's Best: won 10; lost 4

Pilsner Penguins: won 8; lost 5

Rolo: won 8; lost 5

Metro Golden Bears: won 6; lost 7

Pendulum Pirates: won 5; lost 8

Headquarters: won 4; lost 8

the Eagle: won 3; lost 9

Pilsner Huffin Puffins: won 2; lost 10

Lonestar Longhorns: won 2; lost 12

Stud Puppies: won 0; lost 14

**Cable Car:**

Pendulum Bucs: won 12; lost 2

the Cinch: won 9; lost 2

Winship Travel: won 10; lost 3

Stormy Leather: won 8; lost 4

Soaps Agitators: won 7; lost 5

Polk Gulch: won 4; lost 7

Pilsner Prizm: won 4; lost 8

Lyric: won 3; lost 9

Viacom Scramblers: won 3; lost 9

Java Road: won 1; lost 12

**Women's Division:**

Cafe Tool: won 10; lost 3

the Metro: won 8; lost 3

the Galleon: won 8; lost 4

Winship Travel: won 8; lost 4

Cinch It Is!: won 7; lost 5; tie 1

A.V.T.S.: won 5; lost 5

the Mint: won 3; lost 7; tie 1

Rolo/Cafe Rookies: won 3; lost 10

Tomboys: won 1; lost 12

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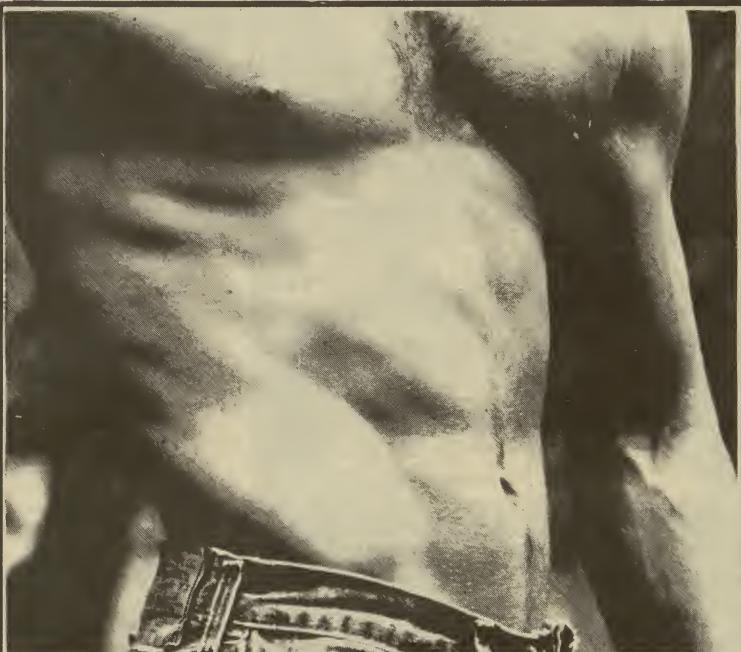


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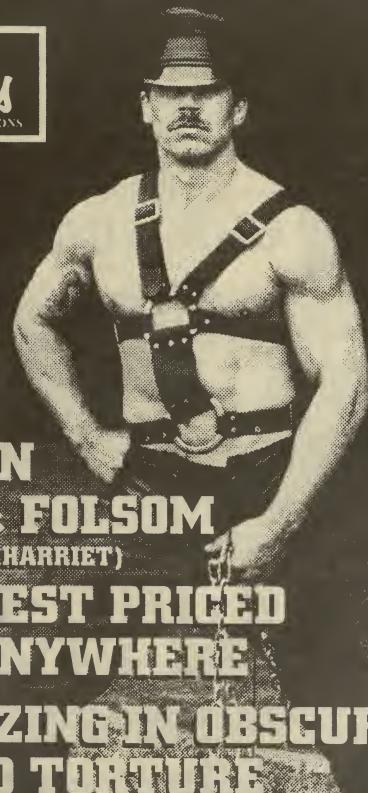
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**EAST BAY BEAR**  
Gives nude erotic massage.  
Hndsm, healthy hands &  
looks of a lumberjack!  
Andy (510) 481-2513  
Late O.K.!

**RELAX**  
**But Get Aroused**  
Sensual, Erotic  
Nude Massage  
by 24 y/o Handsome  
Muscular Caring Guy  
**Tomas - 665-7676**



**CLASSIC TOUCH FOR  
THE CONNOISSEUR**  
Therapeutic Massage  
9am — 9pm  
Richard, CMT 431-9608



### INDULGE YOURSELF

Enjoy the nurturing magic of a soothing deep  
tissue Swedish-Esalen massage in a warm and  
comfortable environment. Castro location. Gift  
Certificates available. Sliding scale for people  
living with HIV.

**MARK CARMODY**  
(415) 861-5441  
Certified

### TREAT YOURSELF TO STRONG BODYWORK

Enjoy a long & luxurious Swedish massage with  
a strong, experienced professional. A wonderful  
environment awaits you — warm, clean, and  
comfortable. In the Castro. Certified.

**TOM LOMBARDO**  
553-4073

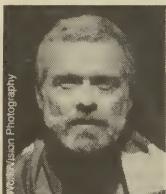


**Richard Light**  
Certified  
First Massage  
\$30/1 1/4 Hour \$20/1 hr  
Market/Guerrero  
Non-Sexual  
864-1320



\$35 WITH THIS AD  
MATT 255-5040

SAVE \$10 IN JUNE!



### CREATIVE BODYWORK

-Designed to your needs-  
14 YRS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE  
STRONG, INTUITIVE CONTACT

**GREG JESSER**  
415.626.4319

### The Golden Bear

**Erotic and Therapeutic Massage**  
Deep tissue work a specialty  
\$35/60min Castro District \$45/90 min

**Markus 864-4209 CMT**



Experienced Professional

E25

VAN

Trained Mass For  
Athletic Gents.  
Swed/Dp Tissue  
245-5350

6 FT. ASIAN  
27, 170, Smth-Hard

TABLE  
FINE OILS  
THE WORKS

E25

A TOUCH OF CLASS

### A RELAXING MASSAGE

by a handsome, masculine blond,  
6', 190, beautifully nude  
muscular body, summer tan.

Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage  
Massage, Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat It

\$45/ln/\$60 Out 75 mins.

Mike 931-0149 24 hrs.

E25

Big, Muscular, Hairy, B.B.  
IN CASTRO

Deep Tissue Massage \$49.00/Hr.

Private Wt. Training \$39.00/Hr.

(415) 864-0999

E24

Muscl Bear Massages You

All Over. Big . . . Hands!

Ken 861-1671

E24

STRONG-SENSITIVE

### EAST BAY

Swedish, Deep Tissue

Certified Fit, Gdkg Man

\$45 Jim (510) 644-1625

E27

SEXY ASIAN

\$60 Jim 267-1817

E28

SF'S BEST \$25+

Ultra-Relaxing, Ultra-Sensual,

Certified Swedish Pleasure

Massage. Total Touch +

Focused On You. Therapeutic/

Erotic. Vic, CMT. 552-5364

E24

EROTIC

Sensual Touch

Nude Massage

By Muscular Dude

PH. ANTHONY 861-1801

E24

ESCAPE THE DAY

Experience A Great Massage By

A Masculine Caring Man

-Friendly & Strong

-6'3", 210 lbs

-Cleancut/All American

-Swedish/Esalen

-Deep Tissue

-\$45/1/2 Hrs.

Market/Noe

Patrick 255-3086

E24

Gentle Touch Massage

Alfredo 282-3313

E24

# People and Personals

## MASSAGE

### Sensuous and Caring



Complete Full Body Massage  
931-2395 In or Out

### Exhilarating Massage



• Relaxing  
• Healing  
• Rejuvenating

Anwar Hussain, CMT  
552-6677 954-3629 Pgr.

### GREAT MASSAGE BY SOME BODY (415) 346-6334

PARADE DAY  
6', BB, Long Hair, Nude Mass.  
666-0661

SWEET ASIAN HAND  
Hndsm & Well-Defined/Sensual  
Massage. Pgr: 627-1740. \$40

E24

### PROFESSIONAL NON-OIL MASSAGE

BY AMERICAN INDIAN C.M.T.  
JIM 282-2012 EVES.

Massages & Baths By Blond  
LET'S GET WET!  
Greg, CMT 346-1061

E24

HANDSOME LATIN  
5'11", 170 lbs.  
Santa Clara  
(408) 244-0987

E24

PERSONAL TOUCH  
Therapeutic and Erotic  
Deep, Satisfying, Massage  
Certified and Discreet  
Daniel 626-4192 Eves/Wknd

E27

EMERYVILLE  
Sensual, Complete Massage!  
\$35/Hr. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.  
(510) 601-5429

E24

SOMATIC MASSAGE  
A Rejuvenating, Hypnotic,  
Erotic Experience!  
Haight/Market Location.  
Weekends Only. \$40/Session  
(415) 255-1164

E24

Sensual Swedish Massage  
by CMT. \$30 1 1/2 - 2 Hrs.  
Stan 641-8221

E25

Luxurious Complete  
Massage by Good Looking  
Young Asian. Dzung. 605-0281  
Pgr.

E24

In Walnut Creek, Goodlooking,  
Friendly, Italian Guy  
With Strong Touch. Older,  
Married, Welcome! 9AM-9PM  
(510) 945-6351

E24

BRET  
771-2888

EROTIC  
•  
SWEDISH  
H

### ENVELPMENT



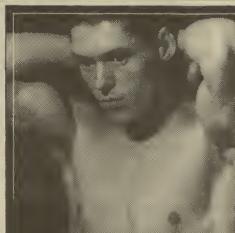
Outstanding Professional Massage  
MICHAEL 281-0208

### ORTHOPEDIC MASSAGE



JACK EIMAN  
695-7808

Deeply relaxing and very  
effective for stiff neck and  
shoulders, back pain, spor-  
ting injuries, computer  
stress, etc. I've had excellent  
training. Please call for  
detailed info. Thank you.



Shiatsu • Oil Massage • \$50  
Michael Quinal CMT 861-4472

ECSTASY FROM BERLIN  
Handsome, 24, with  
a passionate touch for  
your unabashed pleasure.  
br/bi/5'9"/150#/8"uncut  
Only \$50 In • \$60 out.  
Phillip (415) 487-1133

Matthew Simmons  
Body Electric Instructor

Swedish \$50  
75 min. Tantric \$75  
100 min.

387.9410

Sliding scale for PWAs

MARTIN 863-8544

DEEP TISSUE • SWEDISH  
TRAINED • FRIENDLY • \$55

Stafford Design:252-8434



### Swedish Massage

built, attractive, 27 yr  
table w/head cradle  
clean, serene  
environment  
Monday -Thursday  
8 am till 8pm  
in only/\$50

487-6468



### RELAX

Treat yourself to a strong yet  
soothing massage by a caring &  
sensitive professional in a warm &  
cozy environment.

ERIK GEORGE CMT  
Outcalls Available  
\$55 / 1 1/2 HR.

552-1183 10AM - 10PM



Enjoy a lush, full-body  
MASSAGE  
under the experienced hands of  
**JAS DEWSNAP**  
Certified Massage Therapist  
and registered Jin Shin Do® Acupressurist  
Sensuous • 864-5447 • Satisfying  
Castro location \$40 - 1 1/2 hours - Discount PWAs

### GET PAMPERED

by a caring, friendly  
bodyworker. Revitalize  
yourself with an amazing,  
individually tailored  
sensual experience. \$45.  
Certified 1982. 10am-10pm

586-JOHN



**STRONG GREEK**  
Hot Oil - 776-8481

### SUPERB MASSAGE

**JEFF GIBSON,**  
CMT  
626-7095  
\$45

Whether your goal is stress management,  
eliminating nagging aches and  
pains, or simply to feel great, I can  
help. Swedish • Deep Tissue • Sports-  
massage • Trigger Point • Cross Fiber  
• PNF Stretching • and more!

BERKELEY AREA  
7 yrs., LMT, Prof., Reliable, Warm, Clean, Com-  
fortable. "The toughest clients to please  
are my regulars."

J. Newburgh Grace 510.883.1308

DUO  
MASSAGE  
STEPHEN + ERIC  
24 + 28  
FULL BODY  
415-929-9906

E24

### RELAXING

6', Masculine, Athletic, 26.

Offers Full-Body Erotic

Massage The Way You Want

It! In/Out • Hotels \$50

DAVID 749-1166

E24

### BEAR MASSAGE

Hairy, Italian, Ex-Football

Jock Rubs You The Right

Way. 24 Hrs. Pete 285-4652

\$40/In \$55/Out

E24

ACCUPRESSURE MASSAGE  
by Asian (non-sexual)  
Tony 923-0343 or 560-6771 (pager)  
First massage \$35 for 90 minutes

E24

### A TOUCH OF CLASS

A RELAXING MASSAGE

By the Best! A handsome,  
masculine blond, 34, 6',  
195, beautifully nude  
muscular body,  
summer tan!

Firm, Erotic, Swedish Massage

Massage Lotion & Table. Hard to Beat It!

\$45/In \$60/Out 75 Mins.

Ron 931-0149 24 hrs.

Experienced!



Nurturing/Caring

Massage

558-9906



# People and Personals

## MASSAGE

Nude Swedish Massage  
**SENSUOUS TOUCH**  
Eric 564-6277  
\$40/IN \$50/OUT

**FREE Masseur Ads**  
Plays on  
**976-MUSCLE**  
Masseurs Only Call  
(415) 403-7433

*Put Yourself In  
Our Hands*

Massage Appts.  
255-4921 2-9pm

### COLONIC IRRIGATION

Complete  
Colon Cleansing  
Professional Equipment  
Sterile, Disposable Tubes  
Trained Therapist Who Is  
Sensitive and Thorough  
★ 241-0567 ★  
7 Days - By Appt.

**Professional Massage & more.**  
A sensuous fifty-minute  
massage, PLUS all the Eros  
comforts - sauna, shower, video  
lounge, & playroom - only \$50.  
For an appointment,  
call 255-4921 from 2-9 pm.

**EROS**  
2051 Market, at Church

**TREAT  
YOURSELF**  
Experienced  
Therapist  
gives a strong,  
satisfying  
massage. Warm room and table  
in private home. Parking +  
Shower avail. \$40/in.  
Shawn C.M.T. 585-0960  
Voicemail & Pager 280-5147

**GENUINE  
SENSITIVITY.**  
YOUR MUSCLES ARE  
THE FOCUS AS THE  
STRENGTH FROM 21  
YEARS OF PIANO  
TECHNIQUE IS  
COMBINED WITH  
SWEDISH AND SHIATSU  
MASSAGE. THERE IS A  
DIFFERENCE.  
ALLEN  
252 9442

### IRISH CHARM

Plus Pro Excellence  
Guarantee Your Pleasure!  
Relaxing, Arousing, Nude,  
Swedish. By Galkng  
CMT. Table. Tim 824-7249

Strong, Expert Massage By  
Handsome, Masculine  
Student. In/Out. 905-8838

**CATTLEMEN**  
Exotic Massage by Goodlooking  
Friendly Cowboy in the  
San Leandro-Hayward Area.  
John  
(510) 357-7799

San Jose - Full-Body - Swedish  
\$30/hr. • \$45/1½ Hr. • In Calls •  
Anthony-CMT-(408) 288-6169  
E27

Hot Erotic C&B, Tit +  
Thigh Massage. Hot Bath  
Before? Out \$45. 24 Hr.  
Exp. The Wave. 522-9638

### ADAM

Wholesome, handsome Man, nice  
hairy Chest. Built Nice & Tight. 6', 195  
lbs., B/Builder, Blonde, Blue, Hunk. I offer  
a nude complete full-body Swedish  
Erotic Massage done with hot lotion.  
In/\$50 Out/\$65

Pamper yourself and Call  
**474-8027**

### BODY MAGIC

With a nurturing, relaxing and  
rejuvenating Full Body Massage

**Jack Walder** CMT  
252-7100

Discount PWAs • Castro Location



PHOTO BY RAM STUDIOS

**Italian Masseur**  
EAST BAY  
and S.F.  
\$35  
510.654.5889

Design-Styled 252-8334  
Photo: Larry Marks 626-2261

**Sensual Massage**  
6', 175, In/Out  
(510) 658-2437

**MASSAGE**  
• Swedish  
• Esalen  
• Deep Tissue

**Nature, CMT**  
**474-2740**

**LOVING  
STROKES**  
Nurturing, Sensual  
Healing, Satisfying

**STRONG HANDS**  
SENSITIVE & EXPERIENCED  
From Stress Reduction to  
Simple Relaxation  
**STEVE C.M.T.**  
821-2985

**No H ill**

**Masculine, Strong**  
**Hot Oil**  
**Massage +**  
**Handsome,**  
**Muscular, Hung**  
**Italian - Major**  
**Hotels**  
**560-5119**  
(Friendly!)

••••• Kory • 773-9130 •••••  
Serving SF's Finest Hotels E24

••• Full Body Relief! •••  
Near Opera House • 773-9130 E24

**SONOMA COUNTY**  
35, Bld/Grn, Strong  
\$35 1 Hr. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Doug (707) 837-8000 E27

**24-HRS. MASSAGE**  
C.M.T. Call: 775-4771 24-Hrs. E24

**WORKINGMAN'S RELIEF**  
Call Rick by 5 pm for Appt.  
at 8 pm, M-F. 468-0511 E24

Relax & Enjoy Combination  
Eastern & Western Massage!  
6'4", 175, Asian, 6 Yrs. Exp.  
Chuck, CMT 221-3477 E28

**EROTIC MASSAGE**  
1½ Hrs. - \$40/In \$65/Out  
Older Men Welcome. Hotels.  
24 Hrs. (415) 346-4677 E24

Salubrious, Satisfying,  
Sagacious, Sensual Spells  
Release! Greg, Experienced.  
Oakland CMT. (510) 547-1364 E24

**ASIAN DREAM**  
E26

**Skilled Friendly CMT**  
digim graphics 252-0320

**MARTY**  
McCORKLE  
861-9950  
Swedish/  
Deep Tissue  
**\$50.**  
Convenient Market  
& Van Ness Location

**Mike** 252-0730 \$60

Complete Massage By A Tan  
**BUFFED BLOND**  
25 y.o. • Cute - Greg • 252-0389

Strong, Skillful Mix of  
• Gi Gong, Point Work, Deep  
Tissue, Swedish, by Handsome,  
Cordial CMT. 75 min.  
\$45/55. In/Out. Jim 752-8846

**SANTA ROSA INTRO**  
Masterful Hands Transform  
w/Sensual, Soothing, Pulses.  
R.J. 707-545-9745 eve. \$25

**GREAT MASSAGE**  
**DEEP TISSUE**  
STRONG, HAIRY, MUSCLAR  
HAVE TABLE, WILL TRAVEL!  
Out Only. Steve 255-1313 E27

**MINI VACATION**

**Photo and Video Services Available**

I use a  
combination  
of techniques  
for a relaxing  
massage  
tailored to your  
individual  
needs.  
Therapeutic or  
just to feel  
great.  
Scott, CMT  
668-6022

Nude Mass, 6' BB, Long Hair.  
Asian Welcome. 666-0661 E24

24H Major Hotel Room Srv.  
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Sensual Msg. Escort & More!  
Hot Jock 821-1674. Kevin

**ASIAN DREAM** E26

**MASSAGEMATES**

Massage Exchange Club  
for Gay/Bi Men. Write to:  
MassageMates, Dept. B,  
Box 421028, SF, CA 94142 E24

Swedish Hot Oil, Erotic  
**PROSTATE & MORE**  
FULL BODY MASSAGE  
Young, Blond, CMT  
ROB 621-5016 \$60 E24

**COMPLETE RELEASE**  
2-HOT MENI-EROTIC MASSAGE  
FULL BODY/FULL PLEASURE  
BY BUTCHY, OR FRED  
90-MINUTES \$35.00  
CALL: 510-865-8040

**Swedish/Thai Style**  
**Mat Massage**  
Gary, C.M.T.  
**974-9466**

**EAST BAY LATIN**  
SENSUAL EROTIC MASSAGE  
\$35 (510) 654-4504  
\*Outcalls to S.F. Also

Deep Tissue Massage Given  
by clean-cut grad student.  
8 a.m.-10 p.m., EZ Parking  
Call Matthew 752-5668 E25

**DISCOUNT MSG**  
\$20-30C.M.T. 775-4771 24 Hrs.  
E24

\$30 Massage 441-1054 Hot E28

Deep Swedish, Shiatsu, Reiki  
\$30/\$35 ED 647-4388  
Quality Work. Tranq. Noe Loc.  
E24

Nude Mass by 6', Playful BB  
Long Hair. 666-0661 E24

Hot Nude Relaxing Massage  
by handsome, 28; sexy, built &  
friendly. Jeff CMT 553-8804  
E25

**408 IN/OUT**  
Thorough. \$100 956-9206 E26

Businessmen & Athletes Experience  
the Hot Touch of a great-looking, young, healthy,  
collegiate masseur.  
Therapeutic Swedish/Sports  
Style. Professional & Private  
rate. \$50 Doug (415) 346-8023  
E24

Head to Toes Massage  
By Young Asian  
\$60/In. Hung 280-7327 pgr. E24

••Student Body• 773-9130••  
Kory• "Does A Body Good"•  
E24

★ ★ JAPANESE ★ ★  
Relaxing, Friendly  
\$45/In \$60/Out. pager 837-7229  
E25

**ITALIAN MASSAGE**  
2-HOT MENI-EROTIC MASSAGE  
FULL BODY/FULL PLEASURE  
BY BUTCHY, OR FRED  
90-MINUTES \$35.00  
CALL: 510-865-8040

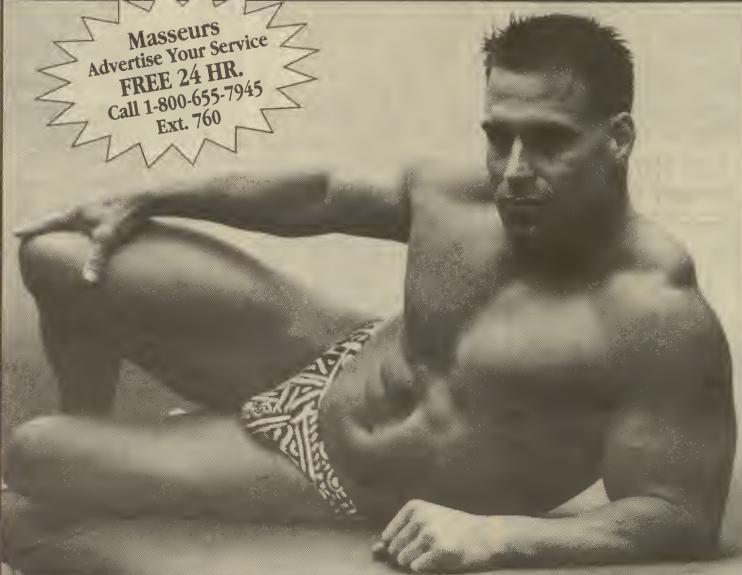
**Acupressure**  
Deep Tissue  
Shiatsu  
Tui Na  
Swedish  
**ERIC ASAO**  
**662**

# People and Personals

## MASSAGE

### The Original Massage Line Just Got Better!

Massagers Advertise Your Service  
FREE 24 HR.  
Call 1-800-655-7945  
Ext. 760



Serving The Bay Area & L.A.

Hot, Sexy Guys! Hanging Out  
Ready & Waiting For You - 24 Hrs.

Hundreds Of Messages - More Than  
Ever! Including Phone Numbers

Speed Browse Feature - Quick & Easy  
Saves Time & Money!

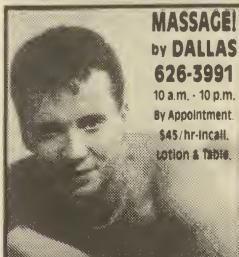
#### Massage Touch Line - Updated Constantly

Bay Area **1-900-844-4777** ext. 169

L.A. Area **1-900-844-4777** ext. 222

CALL DISCREETLY BILLED 5¢ 99/MIN. 18+

**SONOMA COUNTY**  
MASSAGE AND HOT TUB  
Beautiful Retreat Setting  
Body Electric Trained CMT  
Cally Harry (707) 824-8040

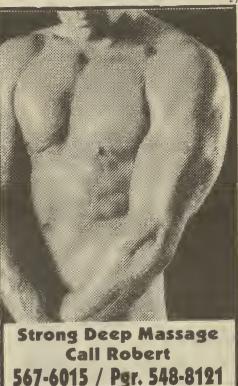


**MASSAGE!**  
by DALLAS  
**626-3991**  
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
By Appointment  
\$45/hr-incall.  
Lotion & Table.

Daniel Lessa-Zielinski, CMT  
Deep, Relaxing, Sensual, Swedish/Esalen  
Massage by Strong, Experienced, Caring Hands  
415-863-2575  
90 min/\$55 • Castro Location • Parking

Warm, Erotic, Complete, Full  
Body Massage. East Bay. \$25.  
Days-Evenings-Weekends.  
Why pay more for a great  
massage? Jim (510) 527-2714

Very Cute, Boyish, 22 y/o  
blonde/blue/tan/smooth  
**HOT NUDE MASSAGE**  
24 Hrs. 905-4548 LV# \$80/up



**Massage**  
**387-9451**

Strong Deep Massage  
Call Robert  
567-6015 / Pgr. 548-8121

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### BERKELEY STUD



**JOSHUA**

Fun, Affectionate, Talented  
Blk/Blue, Cute, 5'9", 160#, 28  
In/Out \$100  
**VM: 510.869.2309**

### FIST

*Sling, Toys, Rim-Seat*  
*Handsome, 34, 6'4", 175*  
*FF, TT, Scat.*  
**AI 998-5508**

For Mature, Older Men

**FRIENDLY**  
Cute, Bright, Sincere,  
25 y/o, Providing Intimacy.  
**TOM 406-8401**

**East Bay Erotic Pleasures**  
Not a lotta hype, just a good  
time with a nice guy. Gentle  
top, 34, 5'5", 145, hairy, hung,  
\$70 hr./in. Also longer sessions,  
some out calls.  
**MARC (510) 444-3204**

Patrick Murphy 708-3644  
**BLOND BOSTON BOY**

Moustached Sharpshooter  
**BLONDE TOP**  
8 1/2" Thick. (415) 605-0197 \$75

**YOUNG AND BUFFED**  
Straight looking hunk, 24,  
5'11", 195 lbs., brn/brn  
hot 48" chest, 30" waist, 8x6,  
pumped bod, cute face, very  
likable, Mike. (415) 896-8001

**MORE**  
Than Massage. Scott 558-9902

**OI-MATE**  
Experience the Magic of  
an Australian Man • 23 y.o.  
Blk • 24 hrs. Pgr. 698-0858

Forget Campus + Nob Hill!  
**HOT STRIPPER!**  
\$50/\$70 Hot. Matt 552-7224

**HANDSOME ★ HUNG! ★ VERSATILE!  
BIG 9" BEAUTY!**  
Get Roy! ★ \$100 I/O ★ 303-1307

**Find what you're looking  
for in The B.A.R.'s  
classified section!**

**X-LONG X-THICK TOP!**  
HANDSOME WELL BUILT  
Clean Cut  
EASY GOING TOPMAN  
**Vince 708-0377 \$75**

**STRAIT TOP**  
Latin 24 y/o, Tall, Handsome  
with 9" U/C Tattooed Dragon  
Beauty! Hot, Smooth, Hard!  
Days, Eves. Jose 333-4490  
Leave Message

**FRENCH MARINE**  
Body Builder  
240 Pounds, 25 years old  
6'1", 52" ch., 20" a.  
**New In Town -  
From Paris**  
560-2478

### SEXY GUY

Hung 9" and the Hottest



**775-4771** 24 Hours

### young boy

fair of face  
long, curly hair  
slim, dancer's build  
smooth, hairless skin  
7" 5'7"

**621-5262**

**Johnny**  
(415) 303-0373

Pgr.  
Friendly, affectionate  
Nice Body/Nice Guy  
24 Yrs., Compact, Very Tone  
Torso, Great Chest, Great  
Sexy Energy w/o the Hype.  
Alen 487-1621

### HOT 22Y/O BOY

Kristian 245-0189 In/Out

**BUTCH**  
MOTORCYCLE STUD  
Warm, Friendly, Leather/Levi  
All American, Handsome, 26/y/o  
**HOT BODY 4U**  
Mitch 561-9722

Straight Construction  
Worker, Hairy, Muscled, &  
Tattooed, Avail. For Your  
Fantasies, S.F. to Russian  
River. 541-5041 / 698-5129

**10" CUT BLACK, 6'4"  
GUARANTEED**  
(510) 446-0602 IN/OUT

Foot Fetish-Hi-Tops, Socks,  
Boots. \$60/\$40 Bpr. 834-8170

28★ Butch★ Hot★ 8" Thick  
**KICKS BACK**  
\$40 Days OK. Tom 252-7923

Well-Bred, Well-Built, Well-Hung  
Ivy League Educated Varsity  
Athlete, 23, ripped body, great  
looks. Steve at 800-549-1811

**TOP GUN**  
Extra Handsome, Clean-Cut  
Dark Blnd, Bl, 5'10", 170#  
Robert Urich Look  
San Jose - Will Travel  
24 Hrs. Pgr. Jay  
(408) 237-8648

### SKINHEADMEAT

**JOE • 974.4365**

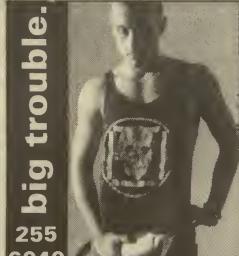
**ARE YOU BI?**  
Ruggedly Handsome, Muscular  
Daddy. Very Hung, U/C, and Gorgeous, Sexy  
Young Female; together for  
your fun!  
Pgr. 907-4907

# People and Personals

## MODELS & ESCORTS



Dan  
922-3645



big trouble.  
255  
6040



SPANISH CUISINE  
Hot 24 y/o, 7" Thick, 185#  
Masculine, Thick  
Caters To Well  
Cultured Elites.  
Xtrmly Handsome!  
Satiate You Palate.  
Antonio 621-7451  
\$100/Out \$75/In

E24

Tall, Handsome, Hung 38 Y/O  
SF'S HOTTEST DAD  
All Scenes, Role-Playing  
24 Hrs. Reasonable 431-5719

E24

Young, Smooth & Delicious  
SENSITIVE KID  
Tim 998-5357 Out Anytime.

E24

21 years old  
Versatile Top  
Smooth, Defined, Classic!

CALL ERIC  
1(800)805-0936  
\$100 out only in SF

BLUE COLLAR  
Good Looking, Const. Worker  
6'4", 190 lbs., Good Shape  
9½ Inches Cut  
(415) 764-4466  
Out Only

6'2", 235 lbs., Blk BB, Super Safe  
Exhb Muscle Worshp.  
52°C, 21"A, Mega Dk.  
11"x8" 863-4847  
or dble up with my tall, hairy  
hung buddie. Straight/Bi OK

FF, TT, B/D, TOYS  
Gloves, kinky, Andy. 5'9", 175  
stache. 861-2668. Sling.  
Movies. Exper. Safe. \$70

E26

If you want to please a  
tall, hairy chested stud with  
size 12D feet, call  
JOHN 979-6898  
NEVER IN A HURRY

E24

X-Army Sgt. 6'4", 195 lbs.  
hairy. Chuck 431-1579

E26

HANDSOME MAN  
Tall, Masc, Hairy, Blond  
24 Hrs. CAL. 431-8209

E26

STALLION  
Bpr. # 807-5690

E26



CUTE BLOND  
25, TAN  
303-1235/24 HRS.  
MODEL/MASSAGE

### PLEASE PLEASE ME

**MAC**  
**267-1800**  
6'1" HAIRY MASCULINE TOP  
SHAVED HEAD GOATEE  
HANDSOME MUSCULAR  
**DIRTY MOUTH SHOWOFF**

**MAGIC MAN**  
(415) 563-8436

18, Black, 8" Cute, 553-4520

E24

ON VACATION?  
ON BUSINESS?  
OR MARRIED?

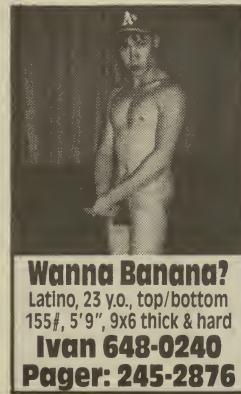
**HOT, FRIENDLY  
YOUNG STUD**

Mitch 561-9722  
Safe/Clean/Discreet  
HOT BODY/NICE GUY

E24



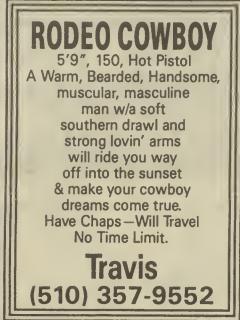
**LATIN BOY**  
(415) 750-1472



**Wanna Banana?**  
Latino, 23 y.o., top/bottom  
155#, 5'9", 9x6 thick & hard  
**Ivan 648-0240**  
**Pager: 245-2876**



**DAMON, CMT  
Powerful**  
Pager 837-7993  
Castro Area



**RODEO COWBOY**  
5'9", 150, Hot Pistol  
A Warm, Bearded, Handsome,  
muscular, masculine  
man w/a soft  
southern drawl and  
strong lovin' arms  
will ride you way  
off into the sunset  
& make your cowboy  
dreams come true.  
Have Chaps—Will Travel  
No Time Limit.

Travis  
(510) 357-9552



HARBOUR STUDIOS 510-845-9946  
**S.F.  
STUD**

handsome,  
friendly,  
boy  
nextdoor.

**TIM**  
**905.5828**

25yr. 6' 2" brown blue 8"



**BIG THICK TOM**  
In/Out 771-5099

For Your Pleasure...



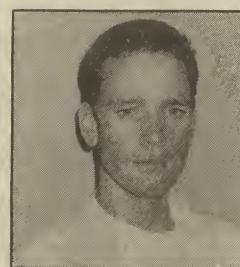
**THAD**

**FRIENDLY**  
**HANDSOME**

Pgr. 708-2634

Hombre Macho con una  
**¡TOLONGA!**  
MUY GRUESA Y INCHADA  
NOB HILL - 560-5119

**XL-IRISH**  
**6'1" 190# HG 9**  
**muscular hairy**  
**masculine**  
**255-9615**



**BI PORN STAR**  
5'8", 165, Tatts,  
Young/Buff/Hung  
Verbal/Controlling Top  
Out Only, Dylan; 245-0119

**A REAL BODYBUILDER**  
5'8", 210 lbs., Itl.  
30" Waist, 20" Arm  
Comp. Shape. \$100.00  
929-3098

E24

••Tit-Nipple-Pec Massage••  
•••Kory 773-9130•••

E24

**UNCUT BIKERSTUD**  
Hung Big - Low Hangers.  
Handsome, Aggressive  
Topman!!!  
Built, Friendly, Dominant!  
Verbal, Open-Minded, 24 Hrs.  
Craig \$80/In (415) 931-3131

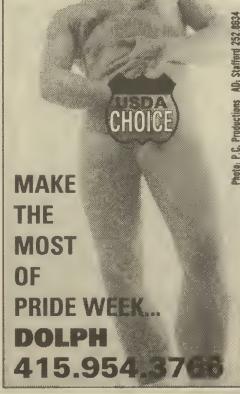
**BUTCH BOTTOM**  
Handsome, Warm, Friendly  
Safe/Clean/Discreet/26 y/o

**HOT & SEXY!**

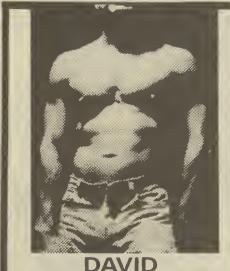
Mitch 561-9722

No Attitude!

E24



**MAKE  
THE  
MOST  
OF  
PRIDE WEEK...**  
**DOLPH**  
**415.954.3766**



Hot Cuban Top From Miami will be in  
S.F. between June 15 thru July 15.  
5'9", 160, 10"x5", uncut, smooth,  
all muscle, out call only. Call me at  
**1-800-936-1383**  
and leave message, name and number.  
See You Soon!

Photo: P.C. Productions 415-553-8534

# People and Personals

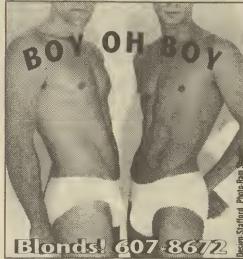
## MODELS & ESCORTS

### S/M SENSUALITY

—long, & slow—my specialty. 6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned master into all aspects & degrees of leatherplay. S/M, B&D, FF WS, raunch. Lord 431-0959

### MUSCLE FANTASIES

★ Cop ★ Leather ★ Fun  
230 lbs., 6 ft., 19" arm, 55" ch.  
**Bpr.: 698-2373**  
**Phone: 824-7138**



Blonds! 607-8672

FROM AUSTRALIA  
**NEW**  
**IN TOWN**  
Age 24, 6'2", 215 Lbs.  
Hung 8½", Cut.  
24 Hr. pager 698-6723  
You Won't Forget Me!

**408/415**

Adonis, 5'8", Tan Red/Brn Bl, 140, 4% Body Fat, Nice, Muscular, Articulate, In/Out. 408-764-0212 / 415-764-0210

### LESBIANS!

21 y/o Femme Fatale  
Will Definitely  
Tickle Your Fancy!  
Caters to Elite  
Sophisticates, Xtrim  
Beautiful, 5'4", 120#  
Erotic Massage  
Geena (209) 635-2006

### DO YOU WANNA HORSE AROUND

HORSEHUNG DUDE DIGS VIDEOS  
BASEBALL BICEPS, WASHBOARD ABS  
TOP W/ XL ROD NEEDS SPITSHINE  
ARE YOU READY TO RIDE?

ANTHONY 292-6425 \$85

**DAVID**

TALL  
HAIRY  
HUNG

**863-4847**



**Submissives Sought**  
**Pgr. 837-9266 Now!**

**SUPER HUNG "9"**

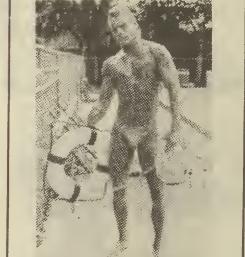
Call: 775-4771 24 Hrs. E24

Handsome Asian  
**TOM 860-7311**

Sexy Goodlooking  
**HOT ASIAN**  
Tom. Pager 219-1655 E25

Blond Rocker, Long Hair, 21  
yo. 6', Hung 8". 626-3031 E24

**ITALIAN BODY**  
B/Builder, 230 Lbs.,  
6'1", 50" Ch., 20"A,  
25 Years Old  
From Italy  
**207-9337**



East Coast Goes West  
**Skip Johnson**  
★ Porn Star ★  
(510) 799-7700



Tall, Dark, Handsome.  
**Italian.** 807-3909



Very Handsome  
Mornings O.K. - Can Travel  
**Cory 560-5557**

### STRONG, SOLID &



**931-SEXY**  
6'175# 42c 29w Brn/Blu  
Massage Included  
Friendly/BayAreaTravel

**TAKE IT EASY**



**MAKE IT HARD**  
**LEX 207-5231**

**BUBBLE BUTT**  
Thick/Uncut Dutch Boy  
Days/Evenings \$100.00  
Pager (415) 837-8185 E26

Dominant DungeonMaster  
**DAGEN**

6Ft., 28 y/o, Slim, Smooth, Stud  
Bondage to Buttplay Top.  
Explore, Stocked Playroom  
B/D, T/T, C/B/T, F/F, V/A, Safe Sane  
Leather, Rubber, Uniforms  
Hot, Healthy, Handsome! \$100  
647-4159 E24

**9X6 24 HRS.**  
Call: 775-4771 24-hours E24

•••• Spankin' & Paddlin' ••••  
•••• Kory • 773-9130 •••• E24

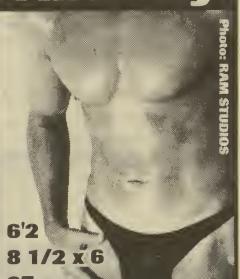
**STRAIGHT BOY**

26 Years Old

8" Thick

**DANE**  
**255-5970**

**Anthony**



6'2  
8 1/2 x 6  
27 y.o.  
**415.861.6027**  
Serving all bay areas

### INDULGE YOURSELF DON'T WAIT ANY LONGER

6 ft., 185 lbs.  
brown hair  
blue eyes  
smooth  
ripped  
sexy  
tan

S.F.

Photo Not Used for Strike, Snap, & Kick

good looking  
masculine  
clean-cut  
friendly  
great  
legs  
9x6

L.A.

**BUCK (415) 280-0725**



**SPANNING BONADGE**

**FF-TT**

**SLING HOT DAD**  
**MARK**

**\$50**



**Beau 560-0056**

### GET BUSY

Athletic Young Student—  
Hung, Masculine Top.  
Hot & Safe. 905-8838

E24

★ SWEET ★ TEEN ★  
★ Hot ★ Young ★ Thin ★ Uncut ★  
★ 415-972 ★ 8074 ★

E24

22 Yr. Old Black Top  
Slim, Hung and Long  
Lasting, Rock Hard, 9 Inches  
Cedric, Out Only Pls.  
510-819-0414

E24

Latin College Boy 615-8186  
Massage & Sensuality. Travel.

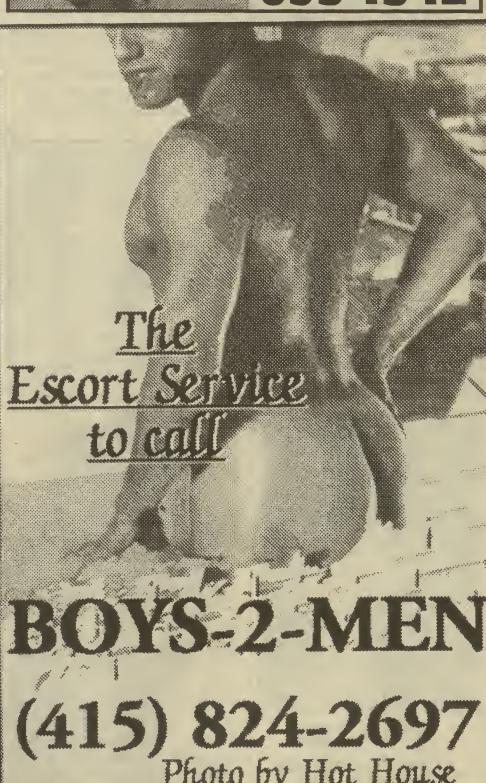
E24

Smooth Defined Body  
**21 YEARS OLD**

Sexy, Friendly, and Smart!  
★ Never In A Hurry ★  
\$100 Eric Pgr. (800) 805-0936

E24

**COLT MODEL**  
In town  
6-17 thru 6-23  
**695-1542**



The  
Escort Service  
to call

**BOYS-2-MEN**  
**(415) 824-2697**  
Photo by Hot House



# People and Personals

## MODELS & ESCORTS

**Friendly  
Handsome  
Clean-cut**

5' - 175#  
East Bay/ SF - Out  
**KEVIN**  
510-713-2239

Photo Studio: STUDIO 5444  
Photo and Design by Steve Savage (415) 626-2510

**Friendly, Handsome  
Buffed, Sensuous**

**TONY** 597-3613

Photo and Design by Steve Savage (415) 626-2510

**DEVON**

**Hot Bronzed Stud**  
San Francisco  
Los Angeles  
**Pgr. 415.207.2516**

**JRAY**

**626-6521**  
**SF/BAY**

Photo: RA M STUDIOS  
Photo and Design by Steve Savage (415) 626-2510

**MURK**

**998-6514**

**VINCE**

\$100/24 hrs  
Outcalls only  
**761-9284**

**Handsome Top**

**Uncut, Young, Puppy!**  
**739-0227**

**TOP GUN**

Extra Handsome, Clean-Cut  
Dark Blvd, Bl, 5'10", 170#  
Robert Urich Look  
San Jose - Will Travel  
24 Hrs. Pgr. Jay  
(408) 237-8648

**HUGE BODYBUILDER**  
6', 270 cut, 58" Ch, 21" Arm,  
\$150/Hr. Avl. 6-17, 18 & 19  
Call Allen at  
**395-8424**

Hairy Chested, Muscled Hunk!  
No Attitude, 6'0", 185, 45"  
16'a, 31" w, 8.5". Ken 861-1671

**N.Y. RICAN**  
Hunk, Butch & Buffed  
22 y/o, Danielo. 292-2439

**ITALIAN STUD**  
Extremely Verbal  
Tan, Built, Nasty Topman.  
Will Take You Where  
You Need To Go. 24 Hours.  
Mike. Pgr. 245-1403. \$100.00

Friendly, Young S.F. Guy  
24 y/o, 5'8", 148 lbs., Top.  
Marc West. 232-1382 24 Hrs.  
I'll be waiting! Pgr. 560-1505

**JASON**  
**241-0527**

**JEFF** • \$100  
(415) 386-9069

**RYAN**  
Sensual Massage  
Affection  
BAY AREA/OUT  
**997-1749**

Photo: Chelesea Williams

**REDHEAD**  
Smooth, Young Top  
**Kirk 303.1477**

**HOT ITALIAN!**  
Playful 22 Yr., Well-Built,  
Great Chest, Ready—Willing  
To Please You! Call 24 Hrs.  
I'll be waiting! Pgr. 560-1505

**ASIAN TOP**  
\$60 Jim 267-1817

**HOT ROD "9"**  
Call: 775-4771 24-Hrs.

**A MAN'S MAN**  
WARM, FRIENDLY, BUTCH!  
Handsome, Young, 26 Y.O. Stud!  
SAFE BOTTOM, N/S, N/D.  
Mitch 561-9722  
HOT BODY/NICE GUY

**BIG TURN ON  
MUSCLES & HUNG**  
Butch. pgr. 698-2378  
824-7138 All night or Hourly!

**RAFAEL**  
SAN FRANCISCO'S  
FIRST CALLBEAR  
**995-4754**

**RANDY HO**  
**415-487-9234**

**FANTASY**

**ESCORT**

**FOTO**

**VIDEO**

**5'9" • 165 LBS • 7"**

**HOT MOUTH**

Attractive • 26 yrs. • Hung

Afternoon &

repeat discounts

**JEFF 255-0731**

**TOTAL WORSHIP**

**CHRIS**

280 lbs., 6 1/2"  
**1536-3231**



# FULL SERVICE IN SAN FRANCISCO! TOTAL!

THE #1 STOP FOR ALL YOUR MALE NEEDS! LIVE STAGE SHOWS!  
GUY-NEXT-DOOR NAKED STRIPPERS • CRUISE PATIO • HUGE ARCADE •  
VIDEO & NOVELTY STORE • WORLD FAMOUS 3 AND 4-WAY BUDDY BOOTHS!

CELEBRATE WITH US!

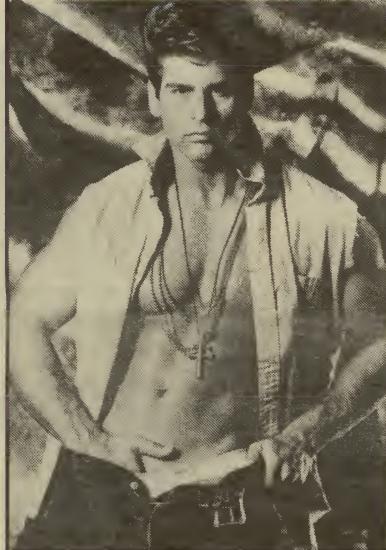


GAY PRIDE WEEK 1994!

To men from all over the globe who have a passion for good male sex, we extend our greetings and thanks. Your appreciation and support of our time honored formula of presenting the world's most desirable men, totally nude and live on our stages, has kept our lively theater, arcade and video store in the forefront for 26 years. We assure you that the Nob Hill will remain the universal symbol for the very best in adult male erotic entertainment.

IN ALL THE WORLD ONLY ONE!  
*The World's Most Famous Male Erotic Sex Star!*

**RYAN IDOL**



**PLUS!**  
3  
**BIG  
DAYS  
ONLY**

**LIVE! IN PERSON  
TOTALLY NAKED!**

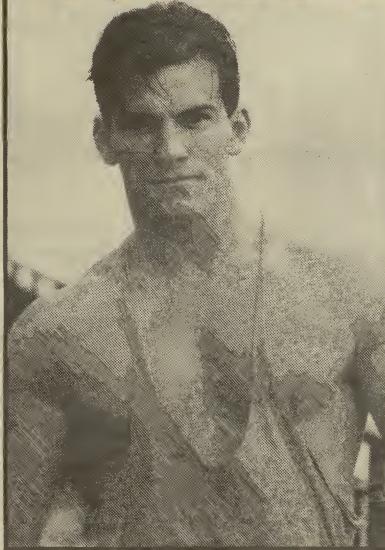
FRIDAY, JUNE 17: 9:00 PM ONLY

SATURDAY, JUNE 18: 8:30, 11:00 PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 19: 8:00 PM ONLY

THE MAN WITH THE MILLION \$ PECS & PECKER  
*See both Ryan and Jon for one admission price!*

**JON MICHAEL**



**6'2" Beefcake Hunk!  
Fox Calendar Man**

**7  
BIG  
DAYS**

**LIVE! IN PERSON  
TOTALLY NAKED!**

DAILY AT:  
12:30, 8:00, 11:30 PM  
SATURDAY, JUNE 18:  
2:00, 9:30, 12 Midnight  
SUNDAY, JUNE 19:  
4:00, 7:00 & 9:00 PM

What is it about Sunday afternoon at the Nob Hill?

FREE SNACKS / DRINKS  
LIVE HAND-BALL DEMOS  
DILDO EXPERTISE!  
That's why we call it

**trashy Sunday**

Open at 11:45, the "party" starts at 2:00 p.m.

**The Incredible  
JEFF STEVENS**  
Call for showtimes



**COMING JUNE 24 • ONE WEEK ONLY!  
A Legend In His Own Time!  
CHANCE CALDWELL**

THE ULTIMATE  
50¢  
EXPERIENCE

**3-WAY**

AND NOW  
THE WORLD'S  
VERY FIRST

**4-WAY BUDDY BOOTHS!**

Imagine yourself! A man absorbing  
you from the front - another man  
excites you from the rear! Your  
dreams can become instant reality  
today in our fantastic Buddy Booths

**NOB  
HILL**

**SHOW PALACE**

LIVE JACK-OFF STRIPPERS  
Wide Screen Cinema & Underground Lounge

**VIDEO ARCADE**

NOVELTY STORE • T-SHIRTS  
Largest SF gay video arcade • 30 Cubicles  
Home of the original 3-way Buddy Booths  
Large Gay Video & Magazine Selection  
Preview Rooms • Star Booth

**Secluded Outdoor  
CRUISE PATIO**

"Cruise under the  
sun or the stars"

DAILY: 11:45 AM - 1:30 AM • 729 BUSH STREET AT POWELL • 781-9468